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State Dept. report praises PA, Arafat for compliance with DOP

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

THE Palestinian Authority has made great strides in restraining terrorism and punishing those responsible for carrying it out, but needs to do much more, a State Department report has concluded.

"If measures such as those that were put into place during this reporting period are sustained, they will have a lasting effect on security and stability," the report found.

The semi-annual report on PA compliance with the Oslo accord was presented to Congress yesterday, as required by the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act, the law that enables US contact with the PLO.

"The success of these steps to control terrorism can only be evaluated over time, but these steps did demonstrate a far more systematic effort to counter and punish those responsible for planning or carrying out acts of terror," the report said.

But the US also remains "deeply disappointed with the PLO's failure to amend the covenant" calling for Israel's destruction, and continues "to urge the PLO to do so at the earliest opportunity."

The administration believes that the PA and the PLO elements under [Chairman Yasser] Arafat's control have abided by the commitments undertaken in September 1993 and those in the 1994 interim agreement, the "good faith" implementation of the DOP," it said.

The PA and Arafat have taken several important steps to prevent violence and punish those responsible for violence and terrorism. The PA has also taken more meaningful measures to crack down on those who plan and carry out terrorism and violence.

Hamas and other Palestinian rejectionist groups have carried out all terrorist attacks against Israelis, and the US has "no information" that "any PLO elements under Arafat's control were involved in terrorism during the period covered by this report."

"At the same time, more should be done. The key to an effective security policy is its sustainability and consistency. The PA should (Continued on Page 2)



Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin addresses soldiers during a visit yesterday to view IDF maneuvers on the Golan Heights. He later reiterated his promise of a referendum on withdrawal from the Golan at a meeting with Labor Party members. Page 2.

Rabin: I'm on tank land, not holy land

"AS long as there is no peace, any military force must get ready for combat to defend the existing lines," Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said yesterday while attending a Golan Brigade exercise in the Golan Heights.

He refused to comment on political issues or respond to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's statement that Israel has blueprints for settlement dismantling on the Golan and that

the Golan "is not part of the holy land." "I am standing on tank land, not holy land. I will not discuss politics here," Rabin said. Rabin, however, asked the soldiers where they preferred serving, in Lebanon or in Nabulus. The vast majority of the soldiers said they preferred Lebanon.

The annual exercise involved artillery fire,

tank movement and attack helicopters, as well as the clearing of obstacles and bridging passes.

Rabin, who attended the exercise with Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine, and other senior officers, commended what he termed "the professionalism with which the soldiers carried out their designated missions."

Netanyahu, Levy stand firm; Likud split seems inevitable

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE split in the Likud appeared inevitable yesterday, as MK David Levy announced that he will quit the party on Tuesday if Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu holds the party's central committee a day earlier as planned.

Breaking a two-day silence, Levy said yesterday it is now clear that Netanyahu is resolved to drive him and his camp out of the Likud. Levy and his followers have decided to boycott the committee meeting, and proceed with their preparations for a national supporters' gathering on June 18, when Levy will announce his plans to form a new party.

Levy said the central committee is to approve a primary system

which will "wipe us out. We will not go to the slaughter with open eyes. We will not put our heads on this guillotine."

He said the one convening the committee - Netanyahu - is responsible for the rift.

Levy's announcement was triggered by anonymous flyers sent to all the Likud's central committee members yesterday, calling Levy "a friend of Shimon Peres" and urging him to leave the party. Levy said the flyer's distribution to all the members proves it was organized by the party apparatus, meaning Netanyahu's people.

Levy and his camp were also furious to hear former premier (Continued on Page 2)

Egypt returns the remains of Yom Kippur MIA

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE remains of Capt. Eran Cohen, missing in action since the Yom Kippur War, have been located in Egypt and brought back to Israel for burial.

Cohen was missing since his Phantom fighter plane crashed during an air battle over the Nile Delta on October 11, 1973. The body of the pilot, Maj. Yonatan Ophir, was returned to Israel in 1982.

The remains of the navigator were discovered following the personal intervention of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak who gave instructions to the Egyptian army to permit Israeli military personnel and equipment to join in the search. The issue was raised by President Ezer Weizman during their meetings in Cairo in December.

Weizman and Prime Minister Rabin last night thanked Mubarak and the Egyptian authorities. Weizman telephoned Mubarak,

and said the gesture will strengthen ties between the two countries. Mubarak promised the search for MIAs will continue.

The announcement came as Mubarak met yesterday with Syrian President Hafez Assad, but there was no word from Damascus about the fate of other Israeli MIAs. There are 18 other soldiers still missing on Egyptian soil and six from the Lebanese front.

Following positive identification of Cohen's remains, OC Manpower Branch Maj.-Gen. Yoram Yair and Chief Military Chaplain Gad Navon went to Kibbutz Degania Alef to bring the news to his mother, Betty, his widow, Ruti, and his brother. Betty Cohen had accompanied Weizman to Egypt 17 years ago in the search of her son's body. Cohen's death resulted from the plane's explosion, they told the family.

Cohen will be buried with full military honors at the kibbutz.

Peres: Talks on territories are serious

HILLEL KUTTLER and news agencies
WASHINGTON

FOREIGN Minister Shimon Peres sought to assure the Palestinians yesterday that Israel is serious about continuing negotiations with the Palestinian Authority over the territories.

In a lecture here before the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Peres said: "The Palestinians were suspicious that we want to have Gaza first and stop and not go further. They are wrong. We had Gaza first. We are trying to have the West Bank following up, because the West Bank, like Gaza in many parts, is not a piece of land but a group of people."

Tension between settlers and Palestinians, rather than the settlers themselves, is the primary obstacle to a resolution in the territories, Peres added.

"In the West Bank... it is clear which is the majority and which is the minority, and I don't think the problem [is] the settlements or the settlers," he said. "The problem is the relations between the settlers and the Palestinians. If we can change the relations, we shall not have a problem."

Peres later told Israeli journalists that he could foresee a final status solution that would leave West Bank settlements intact.

Peres's comments clashed with those made before a Senate subcommittee two weeks ago by Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who said the settlements make final status negotiations among the most difficult "of all time."

Peres also told journalists that in meetings yesterday with the US peace team and with National Security Adviser Anthony Lake, he emphasized the importance of discussing the benefits of peace with Syria, and not just Israel's eventual territorial concessions.

"We have to investigate the fruits of peace with Syria. Many Arab states love the slogan 'territory for peace.' But so far we don't see that they can deliver the peace. We hope that an agreement with Syria will be the end of the peace process, the end of the state of war in the Middle East. It can't be another peace, another agreement. I said [to the Americans] we have to give an answer to the country on what is the meaning of peace with Syria."

Peres also said that details on the continuation of talks with Damascus will be clarified following the upcoming visits to the region of Christopher and peace team coordinator Dennis Ross.

Peres stressed that the time has come for Syrian President Hafez Assad and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to meet "in full daylight."

"I think that for peace there is a need for Assad and Rabin and the other members of the political level to meet in full daylight and air out their differences," Peres said.

"If you want peace, stop being shy. Let's face it. And I think time has arrived," Peres said.

He said such a meeting is a "psychological requirement" because each side has to convince the other it is serious about peace.

In Damascus, Assad offered a rare positive evaluation of Syrian-Israeli peace talks yesterday, saying a recent agreement on security arrangements on the disputed Golan Heights was a step in the right direction.

The Syrian leader spoke at a news conference after six hours of talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who arrived earlier yesterday on a previously unannounced visit to discuss the peace process.

Mubarak has been a key mediator in the Syrian-Israeli negotiations, which have been deadlocked since they began at the 1991 Madrid peace conference. Mubarak was accompanied on the trip by Foreign Minister Amr Moussa and his top political adviser, Osama Baz.

Assad's remarks after the meeting were his first public reaction to the security agreement announced in Washington last week by Christopher.

"The agreement that was reached on certain points between Syria and Israel will help achieve progress," said Assad. "What happened so far is a step on the course of progress."

Christopher had described the agreement as a framework for security arrangements. Its details have not been disclosed.

He dismissed the possibility of upgrading the level of negotiations currently under way between the Syrian and Israeli ambassadors in Washington, Walid Moualem and Itamar Rabinovich.

"I believe that negotiations are under way on a high level," said Assad, explaining that senior US State Department officials "meet with us and go to the other side and meet with the highest Israeli officials. Therefore, the level is high."

Furthermore, he said, "peace is peace whether it comes through an ambassador, a head of state or a foreign minister."

Shavuot holiday begins tomorrow night

SHAVUOT, marking the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai and the harvest of the first fruits, begins tomorrow night, with tens of thousands of people expected to stream to the Western Wall before dawn Sunday in honor of the occasion.

The one-day festival is traditionally observed by late-night study sessions at synagogues and yeshivot, the reading of the Book of Ruth at the morning service, and the eating of dairy products.

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The custom of going to the Western Wall for early morning services on Shavuot began the week after the Six Day War 28 years ago. Upwards of 50,000 people are expected to gather in the dawn twilight to witness sunrise at 5:32, when a silence envelops the plaza.

In Hebron, the entire Machpelah Cave will be open to Jews on Shavuot, as part of the arrangement dividing up the cave that went into effect last year. The cave is completely at the disposal of Jews for 10 of their holidays, and is open only to Moslems on 10 of their holidays.

Government offices and businesses will be closed Sunday.

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Germany may shift aid from Israel to PA

JOSE ROSENFELD

GERMANY is considering canceling its annual foreign aid to Israel and transferring it to the Palestinians, a senior government official told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

The official said that the issue will be at the center of discussions during German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's visit on Monday.

Germany provides Israel with annual assistance of 140 million marks, or NIS 303 million. Senior German officials have recommended that the money be transferred to the Palestinians

based on the technical budget item from which the money originates. The money comes from the budget provision for assistance for developing countries.

German officials argue that Israel is no longer a developing country and therefore the fund should go to help the Palestinian Authority. Officials at the Treasury and the Foreign Ministry are fuming at the proposal, pointing out that the funds have been provided as part of the special relationship between the two countries.

Accidents claim lives of two elderly women

AN 83-YEAR-OLD woman was run over by a tractor on Moshav Ahituv yesterday in the Sharon Valley. Police are investigating the cause of the accident which killed Simcha Pigar, a moshav resident. The driver's license was revoked for 90 days.

On Wednesday afternoon, 86-year-old Bella Zilberman of Ramat Aviv, who was hit by a bus in Tel Aviv on Tuesday, died of her injuries. She had crossed Derech Petah Tikva between two parked buses into a bus lane where she was hit by the bus. The driver of the bus was to be questioned under caution by police yesterday.

Large, Orthodox Jewish Community in new area, north-west Jerusalem (Ramat) urgently needs to complete and furnish a **BEAUTIFUL SYNAGOGUE** which will serve 400 families, with seating for 1,000, and community services - learning, lectures, etc. **Funds urgently needed.** Entire edifice or parts, including central sanctuary and auxiliary sanctuaries can be dedicated in name of donors. For more information, kindly contact Mrs. Schleider at 02-861 891, 02-860 214, or Fax. 02-864 372.

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Rabin reiterates commitment to referendum

SARAH HONG

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday reiterated his commitment "not to begin any withdrawal from the Golan without first holding a referendum."

Rabin's comment came in a speech before members of the Labor-affiliated United Kibbutz Movement, who gave him a near-hostile reception and subjected him to a volley of criticism for his perceived readiness to cede the entire Golan to Syria.

Member after member called on him to reconsider and to pull back from the brink and "admit your mistakes." The loudest applause was reserved for a kibbutznik who vowed, "We shall remain on the soil."

Rabin replied: "If and when the negotiations will yield a peace agreement, we shall bring it to the decision of the people."

He then proceeded to launch an attack on hawkish Labor Party MKs Avigdor Kahalani, Emanuel Zissman and Ya'acov Sheffi for pushing their Golan bill, which would require special Knesset and referendum majorities to ratify any peace deal involving any withdrawal from the Golan.

"Those who seek special majorities in effect own up to the obvious fact that they are afraid of the people's verdict," Rabin said. "If they were confident that the nation opposes an agreement on the Golan, then why the need for these special majority



Members of the Labor Party central committee vote yesterday to delay a decision on postponing the law for the direct election of the prime minister. (Beni Bick)

barricades?" Rabin also appeared yesterday before the Labor central committee, where he failed to stymie Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin's proposal that the implementation of direct election of the prime minister law be put off

until 2000. The central committee is legally empowered to kill Beilin's motion, which is what Rabin first sought. But apparently fearing a good showing by Beilin, he switched his tactics and recommended that the matter be

brought before the party convention on Monday, when they must decide whether the issue will appear on its agenda.

Rabin is confident that Beilin will be defeated at the convention. Last week, Beilin succeeded in passing the first hurdle at the

steering committee when some 300 of its 350 members did not stay for the vote, including Rabin and Peres.

Beilin is due to enter the Rabin government in early August, but in a bitter attack yesterday Rabin accused him of inciting divisiveness in Labor. "Those who sponsor this sort of preoccupation at the convention [on Monday] are those who want to compete with the Likud's infighting. Let them stop fomenting internal warfare. All the convention is scheduled to do is deal with technical issues of the party gearing up for the 1996 election campaign," Rabin argued.

Beilin is the protégé of Rabin's rival, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who also opposes the direct election. Although Rabin and Peres have agreed to shelve their rivalry, Rabin apparently fears that Beilin is waging Peres's battle by proxy and will revive the factional confrontations.

Meanwhile, Economics Minister Shimon Shetreet held a meeting yesterday of Labor Party supporters of the "Center Way - A new direction." The group called on the government's ministers to refrain from declarations on concessions of Israel's strategic assets and comments which hurt the negotiations.

"Despite impressive accomplishments, the public judges us mainly according to what we did not do and what we did wrong," Shetreet said.

Palestinians claim 80 percent of western Jerusalem is Arab-owned land

BILL HUTMAN

PALESTINIAN officials are gathering documents to back up their claim to most of the land in western Jerusalem, to counter Israeli claims to land in eastern Jerusalem.

Khalil Tufakjeh, of the Jerusalem-based Palestine Geographic Center, said yesterday that PLO official Faisal Husseini had presented a low estimate when he said that 70 percent of western Jerusalem is Arab-owned land.

Tufakjeh said Husseini only included land that was part of west Jerusalem just after the 1948 Armistice. If land west of the city that was later annexed was included, he said, the area of Arab-owned land is over 80 percent.

A map of Jerusalem

published in the early 1950s by the New York-based Palestine Arab Refugee Office was used by Husseini to base his claim to 70 percent of western Jerusalem, according to Tufakjeh.

The key on the map states that of 16,261 dunams in "Israel-occupied Jerusalem," 33.69 is Arab-owned, 30.04 percent Jewish-owned, 15.21 percent Christian church land, 2.47 percent government and municipality land, and 18.59 percent roads and railways.

Tufakjeh said that Husseini counted as Arab all the land except that specified as Jewish-owned.

Land belonging to the

villages of Ein Kerem, Ma'ha, Wallajah, Lifta, Qaloniya, Deir Yassin and Beit Safafa were later annexed to the city, and bring the percentage of Arab-owned land to over 80 percent, according to Tufakjeh.

"If Israel continues to claim lands in east Jerusalem, it must realize that we also have claims to land in west Jerusalem," Tufakjeh told the Post.

"We have begun gathering the documents that support our claims," added Tufakjeh, who was called to New York City last month by the Palestinian Authority to help coordinate its campaign at the United Nations against the Jerusalem land expropriations.

REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

do more in the areas discussed in this report to ensure that its policies are systematic and part of a legal structure. The US expects the PA and the PLO to continue to take concrete steps to effectively pre-empt and prevent terrorist acts, and we will press them to do so."

The PA also for the first time began confiscating illegally owned weapons, and "a sustained approach in this area would be another important indicator of the PA's commitment to a serious and structured approach to enhancing security," the report stated.

It documented at length press accounts of the PA's prevention of terrorist acts, but stated that the State Department "has been unable to verify all of these claims of pre-emption of terrorism."

"Nevertheless, we do have evidence that the PA is making a serious effort to prevent terrorist attacks and devoting more resources to pre-emption of violence," it said. It also noted that cooperation and coordination between Palestinian and Israeli security forces "continue to improve."

SPLIT

(Continued from Page 1)

Yitzhak Shamir say on Arny Radio that it would be no great disaster for the Likud should Levy quit.

"The cat is out of the bag," reacted Levy. "This shows that the self-destructive urge to eliminate a large part of the Likud is still driving them." Referring to Netanyahu, he said, "I regret to say that this ill wind comes from a destructive mind."

Levy and his supporters say some 1,000 members have been added by Netanyahu's people to the central committee without being elected, giving the party leader's group a definite majority so Levy has no chance of passing an alternative proposal for primary elections.

MK David Magen yesterday stated that all the new committee members were registered according to proper procedures.

Sources close to Netanyahu said yesterday that he has made up his mind not to give in to Levy's threats, because doing so will only pave the way for more demands in the future. The problem, one source said, "is a recurring phenomenon in one person [Levy], who won't accept the rules."

"Levy is beginning to realize that Netanyahu is not Ben-Gurion, or Arik, who always surrendered to Levy's pressures, and that the extortion tactics he's been using for the past 15 years just don't work anymore," a Likud source said.

The sources said that instead of coming to talk to Netanyahu and settling their differences in a meeting, Levy prefers to threaten to quit.

Winning numbers and cards
In last night's Payis Hazzak drawing the holder of ticket number 53714 won NIS 1,000,000.

The holder of ticket number 49437 won a car.

Tickets numbered 21699, 31356, 399659, 618529, 512686, 19672, 058796 and 025210 won NIS 2,000. These tickets ending in 0882, 9433, 94040, 68597, 43341, 26626, 5548, 63398, 64218, 84086, 72221, 11282, 14494, 27844, 84757, 50391, 8009, 99575 and 26360 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 874, 006, 995, 423, and 538 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 77, 97, 68, 56 and 10 won NIS 24. Tickets ending in 4 and 7 won NIS 8.

In yesterday's Mifal Hapais daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the king of spades, the jack of hearts, jack of diamonds, and ace of clubs.

The Laying of the Cornerstone for the Moskowitz-Shovers Students' Dormitory, donated by Dr. and Mrs. Irving Moskowitz

will take place on Thursday, June 8, 1995 (10 Sivan 5755) at 12:30 p.m. at the College of Judea and Samaria, during the **Second Annual Meeting of the International Board of Governors of the College.**

The ceremony will take place in the presence of the Friends of the College, public figures, scientists, representatives of the student body and of settlers from all over the country, and members of the Moskowitz family.

Transportation to the ceremony: Buses will leave from Jerusalem from Binyanei Ha'uma, at 11 a.m.; and from Tel Aviv, from the Mann Auditorium, at 11:30 a.m.

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YOUR WEEK JUST GOT EVEN BRIGHTER

See Friday issue, 9 June 1995

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"Dr. Bob," friend and resident of Jerusalem for the first time in 1939, passed away May 31 in his native Oklahoma, USA. Biblical theologian, scholar, beloved pastor, devoted husband, father to orphans, Dr. Lindsey loved and served this city - Jew and Arab alike - for forty-three years, with the hope that...

My House will be called a house of prayer for all nations. *Isaiah 56:7*

Memorial Service:

Location: Baptist House
Narkis Street Baptist Congregation
4, Narkis St., Rehavia
Jerusalem
Day: Wednesday, June 7, 1995.
Time: 5:00 p.m.

The Bikur Holim Hospital in Jerusalem and the Heiden Family, Antwerp announce the unveiling of the tombstone of

IRENE SONNENSCHNEIN - WEISS ירנה
Budapest - New York - Antwerp

The unveiling will take place today,
Friday, June 2, 1995, at 11 a.m.
at the Sanhedria Cemetery in Jerusalem.

We mourn the passing of our beloved uncle
b.m. **JOSEPH STIEGLITZ**
(at age 92)
International Art and Judaica Expert
who donated his great Judaica collection to the Israel Museum
We extend sincerest condolences to the bereaved family
Ria and Mike Gruss and family (New York - Herzliya)
Jesse and Stefan Wohl (Rio de Janeiro)
Josef Dornier and family (Tel Aviv - New York)
Dalia and Shmuel Dornier and family (Jerusalem)

We convey our condolences and
deepest sympathy to
the **Ratner Family** of Cleveland, USA
on the sad loss of

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a Zionist who expressed his devotion to Israel
in deeds, and a leading industrialist in the
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Yaacov Salomon, Lipschutz and Co.

In deep sorrow, we announce
the death of my husband, our father
and our grandfather,
greatly loved by all of us

MORDECHAI (Max) KOCHEN

The funeral will take place today,
Friday, June 2, 1995, at 3:30 p.m.
leaving from the entrance of Givat Shaul Cemetery, Jerusalem
The Family

On May 30, 1995, our beloved and unforgettable

JAMES SPRINGER

Berlin - New York - Ramat Gan
left us forever.

In deep sorrow,

His wife, **Blanka**
Brother and sister-in-law, **David and Milly Kaufmann**
Sister-in-law, **Martha Peleg**
Sister-in-law, **Rachel Brook**
Nieces and nephews in Israel and abroad
Please refrain from condolence visits.

Military court to try ex-commander of soldier accidentally killed

EVELYN GORDON

THE commander of Golani soldier Haim Bar-Natan, who was accidentally shot and killed by a member of his own unit in Lebanon in 1992, will be tried in a military court for negligence, Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair said yesterday.

Bar-Natan and the rest of his unit were walking at the bottom of a wadi one night. At some point his commander decided they should proceed along the side of the wadi instead. However, he changed course without informing the unit of his plans.

Shortly after the commander began his ascent, he, Bar-Natan and one other soldier became separated from the rest of the 12-man unit. One of the soldiers in the second group perceived a dark figure above him, and pointed it out to a comrade. The latter, not having been told that members of his own unit might be there, thought it was a terrorist and opened fire. Bar-Natan was hit and died shortly thereafter.

The Judge Advocate-General's office decided, "after much hesi-

tation and doubt," that the commander's actions, while showing poor judgment, did not amount to negligence.

Bar-Natan's parents, Arye and Esther, appealed the decision to the attorney-general. More than the commander himself, they wanted several higher-ups - including then OC Northern Command Yitzhak Mordechai - put on trial.

Yesterday, Ben-Yair decided that the commander, at least, should be punished, even though the High Court has ruled that much more leniency should be shown for mistakes committed in a real operation, as opposed to during training.

Normally, the army deals with such cases via administrative punishments. In this case, however, this is not possible, since the commander has left the army. Nor is it possible to try him in a civilian court, Ben-Yair said, because the causal connection between the commander's actions and Bar-

Natan's death is not clear enough for a charge of causing death by negligence - and the lesser charge of plain negligence only exists as a military crime. He will therefore be tried in a military court, where he will face a maximum sentence of two years.

Arye Bar-Natan, however, said he was furious over the decision, and was considering re-petitioning the High Court to get it overturned.

"I feel sorry for that officer, and I feel sorry for all IDF soldiers," he said, because they always take the rap for the failings of their superiors.

The real criminal, he charged, was Mordechai - both for failing to ensure that a helicopter got to the scene in time to rescue his son, and for failing in general to ensure that officers were given proper training.

Mordechai, he said disgustedly, "is one big bullshitter. He is a big zero." At the very least, he said, the trial should be in a civilian court, where the whole story could come out.

Court rules to put kids of disabled couple up for adoption

TWO children, age two and five, who were born to parents suffering from developmental problems will be put up for adoption, despite the fact that experts and Jerusalem District Court President Vardi Zailer were sufficiently impressed by their father to only reluctantly agree to the move.

The children's parents had agreed to their being put up for adoption after they were found unable to properly care for the children by the welfare authorities and the State Attorney's Office. But they had asked for the children to undergo an "open adoption," which would have allowed them to continue regular contact with their children.

However, Zailer reluctantly turned down that request, because of the problems such an arrangement would cause the children.

Dr. Yehezkel Cohen, an expert on such matters appointed by the court to look into the matter, told the court that any adoption arrangement that was not permanent and did not offer the steady care of one family would hurt the children. But in making his recommendation, Cohen said he had trouble doing so because of the good impression the children's father had made on him.

The father, who worked as a cleaner, is emotionally and mentally disabled, but unlike his wife, who suffered from similar problems, was found to show concern for their welfare.

In his ruling, Zailer wrote: "I got the impression that he is a simple, good man... if I was basing my ruling solely on his rights and not the good of the children, I would undoubtedly conclude that he had shown by his actions that he has the right to maintain contact with his progeny, despite his disabilities. I would not be wrong in saying that he had gone above and beyond his abilities in his treatment of his children."

However, Zailer said that "a child's world is a simple one," requiring one central family unit and not two, adding that he doubted the children's mother could have dealt with or understood a situation in which she would periodically meet with her children after giving them up for adoption. (Itim)



Security and medical personnel attend to victims during a Home Front Command exercise involving a mock mass disaster held in Jerusalem's Teddy Stadium yesterday. (Brian Headler)

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Bnei Brak garbage to be cleared for holiday

Interior Minister Uzi Baram yesterday asked the Gush Dan sanitation department to remove garbage piling up in Bnei Brak because of a two-week strike by city workers.

Bnei Brak residents asked Baram to intervene to dispose of the garbage, which is posing a health risk, in time for Shavuot. The head of Gush Dan sanitation agreed to remove the refuse on a one-time basis.

Former ministry head blasts interrogators

Former Interior Ministry director-general Dov Kehat, testifying in Jerusalem District Court in the Aryeh Deri trial, yesterday sharply criticized investigative methods used by police against him.

Kehat, summoned to testify regarding the appointment of Moshe Weinberg, also accused in the case, as the appointed head of the Lahavim regional council, said a police investigator had grabbed him by the coat during questioning. Kehat said the interrogation methods used by police against him were unacceptable in a democratic country, and noted that they stopped after he complained about them. (Itim)

Dinitz claim upheld by assistant

The Jewish Agency sometimes deducted sums it was owed by emissaries without their knowledge or agreement, former Jewish Agency chairman Simcha Dinitz's personal assistant Amos Yovel testified at Dinitz's trial in Jerusalem District Court.

Dinitz had claimed he was sure sums he had owed the agency had been deducted from his salary; the prosecution had claimed that Dinitz had no reason to have believed this since such deductions would have required his approval. (Itim)

TA officials arrested on suspicion of bribery

RAINE MARCUS

THE former head of the Tel Aviv Municipality Markets Department and the department's former maintenance manager, suspected of receiving bribes, were placed under house arrest for nine days by a Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court judge yesterday.

Yefet Menahem, 52, and Avraham Mizrahi, 44, who were arrested on Tuesday, allegedly received bribes from "interested parties" while they worked for the municipality, in return for favors and help in winning contracts.

Menahem, said police, allegedly

received presents and favors from contractors for giving them preferential treatment in winning tenders. He also allegedly used municipality materials, equipment and laborers for his own use and for private work carried out by certain building contractors.

Menahem also allegedly received crates of fruit and vegetables from wholesale traders for favors. Police also suspect he defrauded the municipality by presenting forged notes to the comptroller ostensibly for goods he

needed from the main warehouse.

Mizrahi, who had been Menahem's right-hand man, is suspected of being an accomplice to offenses and assisting his boss.

Police asked Judge George Kara to remand the two in custody to prevent obstruction of justice.

However, Kara placed Menahem under house arrest for nine days, and set bail at NIS 30,000. Mizrahi's bail was set at NIS 12,500 and he was also placed under house arrest for the same period.

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Tensions rise between NATO allies Greece and Turkey

ATHENS (Reuters) - Age-old tensions between Greece and Turkey resurfaced yesterday when the Greek parliament ratified the Law of the Sea, giving Athens the right to extend its territorial waters.

Turkey, which has said any move to enforce an extension in the Aegean Sea would be reason for war, restated its opposition and began scheduled military land, air and sea maneuvers in the area.

But Western analysts said that despite past rhetoric and belligerent stances on both sides it was unlikely the two NATO allies would allow the dispute to develop into actual conflict.

Ankara is worried the move would turn the Aegean into a "Greek lake". Athens says Tur-

key's stance is simply provocative.

"On the surface there is a lot of rhetoric - it is a war of nerves," said Gulnur Aybet, lecturer on international relations at Britain's Nottingham University.

"But when it comes to taking action, both governments are much more restrained, not least because of their NATO membership... Greece does understand Turkey's position on the Aegean being turned into a Greek lake."

Ratification of the treaty gives Athens the right to double its territorial waters to 12 nautical miles, although Greece has not actually said it would do so.

"Greece will exercise its rights whenever its interests dictate," Deputy Foreign Minister George

Mangakis told parliament in Athens before it voted.

"Turkey's war threats are nothing more than expressions of nervousness over its internal problems," Mangakis said.

Western diplomats in Athens say it is unlikely Greece will try to extend its waters, an act that Turkey says would limit its movements and infringe on mineral and fishing rights because of the many Greek islands near Turkey's western coast.

Ankara has refused to sign the Law of the Sea.

"The ratification in the Greek parliament of the 1982 Law of the Sea treaty has not in any way changed Turkey's views on the territorial waters problems in the Aegean," Turkey's foreign ministry said in a brief statement.

Serbs seize UN civilian official

SARAJEVO (AP) - Bosnian Serbs stepped up their defiance of the West yesterday, holding a civilian UN official hostage and shooting at UN peacekeepers.

The UN Civil Affairs officer in the northern Bosnian Serb stronghold of Banja Luka, a Swedish national, was being "detained" by Bosnian Serb police, said Chris Gunness, a UN spokesman in Zagreb, Croatia. He said the UN man, the first civilian seized by the Serbs since the hostage drama began last week, was picked up by Bosnian Serb police yesterday.

The UN official handled civilian issues in Banja Luka, a hotbed of Bosnian Serb nationalism. Three UN military observers, stationed at Banja Luka airport, have been restricted to base for days.

About 370 UN military personnel have been taken hostage or detained by the Serbs since NATO warplanes last week destroyed Serb ammunition bunkers east of Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital.

On a mountain road leading into Sarajevo, Bosnian Serbs shot at two British armored vehicles, but there were no casualties or damage, said UN Maj. Guy Vinet.

Fighting also continued yesterday in Gorazde, a UN "safe area" southeast of Sarajevo, where Bosnian Serbs and government forces

are battling for control of all but one of the nine UN observation posts vacated by retreating or kidnapped peacekeepers.

Col. Gary Coward, another UN spokesman, said it appeared government forces had managed to capture some of the vacant UN posts, but details were sketchy.

In Colorado Springs, President Clinton, faced with a deteriorating situation in Bosnia, said yesterday he has decided to make US ground troops available to help reposition UN peacekeepers in turbulent former Yugoslavia if asked.

"If necessary and after consultation with Congress, I believe we should be prepared to assist NATO if it decides to meet a request from the United Nations troops for help in a withdrawal or a reconfiguration and a strengthening of its forces," Clinton said in an address to the graduating class at the US Air Force Academy.

The decision represents a significant shift for the administration. It had promised in the past only to provide US troops to evacuate the peacekeepers.

Sending US troops into Bosnia would expose Americans to the cross fire of a three-year conflict that shows little sign of ending, Clinton noted in his remarks that the United States has received no specific request

from the UN peacekeeping force for such assistance.

"We have obligations to our NATO allies, and I do not believe we can leave them in the lurch," Clinton said. "So I must carefully review any request for an operation involving the temporary use of our ground forces. But we have made the right decision in what we have done and what we have not done in Bosnia."

Stressing the limits of potential US involvement, Clinton pledged, "In any event, we must know that we must continue to work for peace there."

"I still believe that we have made the right decision in not committing our own troops to become embroiled in this conflict in Europe, not to join the United Nations operation."

But he defended the US decision to join its allies in developing "a coordinated response to the Serbs' continued refusal to make peace."

"We believe still that a strengthened United Nations operation is the best insurance against an even worse humanitarian disaster should they leave," Clinton said.

Some 350 shells hit the Gorazde area in the fighting late yesterday and overnight, wounding at least 13 civilians. The building housing UN military observers in Gorazde was hit by seven rounds, but there were no casualties.

Chilean police killer defies court

Jerusalem Post staff and agencies

THE Chilean government yesterday threatened to use force to jail one of two secret police chiefs convicted in a 1976 political killing in Washington.

The Chilean Embassy in Tel Aviv issued a press statement yesterday affirming that the Supreme Court of Justice in Santiago has publicly upheld prison sentences on Gen. Manuel Contreras and Brig. Pedro Espinoza in "the famous case of the political assassination of Mr. Orlando Letelier, former minister of foreign affairs."

"The imprisonment will be seven years in the case of Gen. Contreras and six years in the case of Brig. Espinoza," the statement said. "The sentence is final and cannot be appealed. It was voted unanimously" (by the Supreme Court), the statement said.

Contreras defiantly insisted: "I will not go to any jail."

Interior Minister Carlos Figueroa said the government "has the constitutional obligation" of carrying on the high court ruling, "even if that means using force."

At a news conference at his farm in southern Chile, Contreras refused to say what his reaction would be if police try to take him to jail.

"When the situation arises, I will make a decision," he said.

Letelier, a prominent foe of ruling dictator Gen. Augusto Pinochet, was killed Sept. 21, 1976, when the car he was driving was blown up by a bomb in Washington. Ronni Moffitt, an American aide to Letelier, also died.

Contreras claimed he has received "full support and solidarity from my comrades in arms," including several army generals, but refused to give any names. He said he has not talked to Pinochet.

The army has remained silent, and a member of the high command, Gen. Luis Corts Villa, said there will be no comments.

The Supreme Court ruling Tuesday night triggered a series of street celebrations that turned violent. Police yesterday reported 10 officers and a number of demonstrators were injured and 44 people were detained.

'Superman' Christopher Reeve paralyzed

CHARLOTTESVILLE (AP) - Christopher Reeve's doctor refused to speculate on the actor's prognosis following a horse-riding accident that broke Reeve's neck and has left him paralyzed.

Reeve, 42, who cannot breathe on his own, broke his first and second cervical vertebrae and injured his spinal cord in a headlong fall at the weekend, said Dr. John A. Jann, chief of the University of Virginia neurosurgery department.

"He may require surgery to stabilize the upper spine in the near future," Jann said.

Reeve's condition remained serious but stable early yesterday, a hospital spokesman said. The actor's publicist, Lisa Kasteler, said Reeve was conscious and had been able to talk to relatives.

Jann said it was premature to talk about chances for recovery. But another specialist said an injury to the spinal cord at the base of the brain is "almost inconsistent with survival."

Ignatz Bubis fears rightward drift in FDP

News agencies

BONN - German Jewish leader Ignatz Bubis said yesterday he would seek a slot on the beleaguered Free Democrats' (FDP) national board if right-wing FDP members try to gain more power in the party.

That could provide political fireworks when Chancellor Helmut Kohl's junior coalition partners, weakened by a series of electoral disasters, hold their annual meeting next week.

Bubis, president of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, told the *Frankfurter Rundschau* newspaper he was concerned that a nationalist faction could try to swing the FDP sharply to the right and endanger its liberal tradition.

Bubis said a faction around former federal prosecutor Alexander von Stahl was trying to steer the party to the right of Kohl's Christian Democrats and their even more conservative Christian Social Union allies from Bavaria.

Stahl led an unsuccessful attempt in January to prod the FDP into taking a tougher line on crime and putting new emphasis on German patriotism.

"If one of these gentlemen runs (for the FDP national board), I would definitely declare myself a rival candidate," Bubis said.

Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel has already said he will not seek re-election as FDP chairman.

German politicians have agreed to make Jan. 27 an annual day of mourning for the victims of Nazism, parliament president Rita Suessmuth announced yesterday.

The date was chosen because the liberation of Auschwitz occurred on Jan. 27, 1945, Suessmuth said. The governments of the 16 German states will consult about the decision reached by political parties in Bonn, she said.

Security tight for Charles' tour of Irish Republic

DUBLIN (Reuters) - Security forces were on high alert yesterday during a landmark visit by Prince Charles, the first member of Britain's royal family to stage an official tour since Ireland won independence in the 1920s.

The visit would have been unthinkable a year ago due to fears of an attack by the IRA guerrillas who assassinated Charles' great-uncle, Earl Mountbatten, in Ireland in 1979.

In a display of the changing times, London's *Evening Standard* newspaper said yesterday that Queen Elizabeth was now likely to visit Ireland, given the success of her son's trip.

British and Irish officials said a full state visit to Ireland was likely "sooner rather than later," said the paper.

The new climate follows ceasefires last autumn by the Irish Republican Army, which fought against British rule in Northern Ireland, and Protestant guerrillas who fought to safeguard it.

Both governments hope the trip will help end decades of discord, even if Charles' arrival in Dublin triggered a noisy march by some 1,500 protesters.

Security forces - wary of militant if small anti-British forces as well as possible peaceful protests by anti-royalists - took no risks yesterday.

Hundreds of police diverted traffic from usually bustling commercial parts of Dublin city centre as the heir to the British throne paid calls on dignitaries.

His itinerary included lunch with President Mary Robinson, a meeting with Lord Mayor John Gormley and visits to historic Trinity College and a British tourism centre.

More than 1,000 police and hundreds of troops were called up for the two-day visit, the first since Ireland broke from British rule in 1922. Charles will also be under close guard during a further 48 hours of private engagements.

UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA 23rd Board of Governors Meeting, June 5 - 8

With delegations coming from the United States, Canada, South America, England, France, and Germany, as well as Israel, the 23rd International Board of Governors of the University convenes amid the new and the far reaching. The new includes a new University President, who pledges to take the institution technologically well prepared into the 21st century. The far reaching focuses, among others, on proposed schools and departments of study. Symbolizing the dynamic atmosphere that the Governors, under the chairmanship of Sir Anthony Jacobs of England, will encounter is the Social Sciences and Mathematics Complex, now under construction. Its total floor area will exceed that of the 30-story Eshkol Tower, and the complex will serve a student body that has doubled in the past six years to 13,000 degree seekers today. Development of "the University of the North" as a bastion of education and service to the community continues.



Sir Anthony Jacobs, Chairman of the Board of Governors



Mr. Gil Weiser, Chairman, Executive Committee



Prof. Yehuda Hayuth, President



Prof. Mordechai Shechter, Rector

The new and the far reaching will come together in several ceremonies during the Board Meeting - the cornerstone laying for the new student dormitories, the dedication of the Edmond Saffie Family Auditorium, the expansion of the Hecht Museum, the cornerstone laying for the Sir Anthony and Lady Jacobs Ma'agan Michael Ship Museum, the dedication of the Spolski Auditorium, and the dedication of the Uri Michael Akavia Computer Unit.



Mr. Edmond Saffie, Brazil



Mr. Maurice Hatter, England



Dr. Alberto Spolski, Argentina

Another symbol of this theme will come on June 8, when the Members of the Board make an unprecedented trip to Amman, Jordan, to meet with key personalities of the Kingdom. University of Haifa faculty members were among the advisors to the Israel delegation that reached the peace agreement with Jordan.

The University will honor the accomplishments of the following personalities who have distinguished themselves in the areas of education, business, and philanthropy:

Honorary Doctorates



Prof. David Ayalon, Israel



Mr. Victor Conway, England



Mr. B.D. Miller, England



Mr. Arle (Lova) Elav, Israel

Dean of the country's Orientalists and a scholar of world repute, he laid the foundations for the study of Mamluk society and published the classic Arabic-Hebrew Dictionary of Modern Arabic, deemed a central pillar for the study of that language.

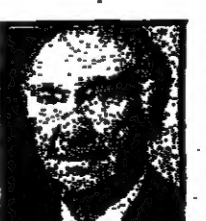
Accountant/business manager for performing artists, he is devoted to community service, a member of the Board of Governors and long-time, active chairman of the British Friends of the University, concerned with the good of the students.

Noted peace activist, educator in development towns, and author, he has held government and diplomatic posts and is a former secretary-general of the Labor Party.

Art collector extraordinaire who has preserved the art of Jewish victims of the Holocaust, he is a benefactor of cultural institutions, including the University of Haifa.



Prof. Richard S. Lazarus, U.S.A.



Mr. B.D. Miller, England

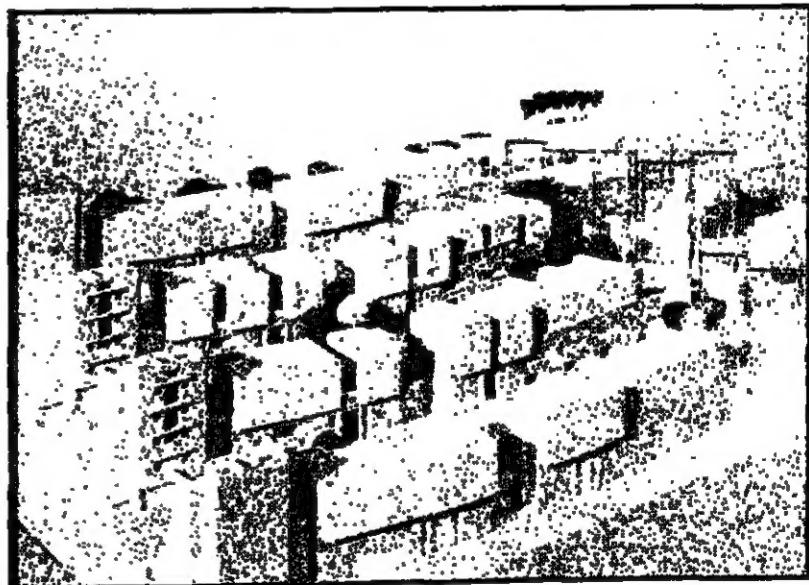


Mr. Yacov Recanat, Israel

One of the world's leading psychologists, whose innovative studies of the cognitive processes of stress and emotions have gained him the highest award of the American Psychological Association.

Successful chemist, industrialist, and businessman, originally from South Africa, he is a member of the Board of Governors, keen supporter of the University, and sponsor of a fellowship for outstanding young scholars.

Managing-director of El-Yam Shipyards Ltd., he has endowed Chairs in shipping studies and evolutionary biology at the University, aided the establishment of its renowned maritime studies center, and is a member of the Board of Governors.



Model of new student dormitories

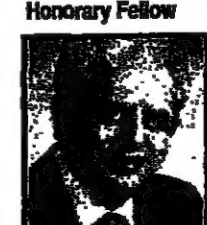
Academic Development

For the first time, the Maurice Hatter Fellowships for Maritime Studies will be awarded. The awarding of the Dusty and Ettie Miller Fellowship for Outstanding Young Scholars is a continuing tradition. The University's academic development will be furthered by the dedication of two new chairs: the Zeevi Family Chair in Studies of Public Auctions, Efficiency and Control in Company Management; and the Netanel and Diana Ben-Haviv Chair in Research and Cultivation of Arabic Language and Literature. The "Future of Higher Education in Israel" will be the subject of discussion.

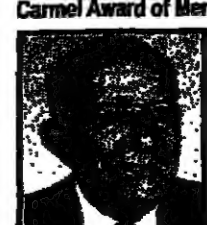


Mr. Gad Zeevi, Israel

Other Awards



Mr. Shimon Unial, Honorary Fellow



Mr. Prodrimos C. Papavassiliou, Carmel Award of Merit



Mrs. Yvonne Bensoussan, President's Award

Mr. Shimon Unial, Pioneering Israeli public relations/advertising figure, now international management council chairman of DDB Needham Worldwide, he is president of the Israeli Friends of the University and a member of the Board of Governors.

The University is proud to count among its faculty the two Laureates of the 1995 Israel Prize for Literature, and a special tribute will be paid to them:

Mr. Prodrimos C. Papavassiliou, of Cyprus, shipping agent and first representative abroad of Zim and later El-Al, he is a great friend of the State, and was very active in clandestine immigration to Israel (allya bet).



Prof. A.B. Yehoshua

Mrs. Yvonne Bensoussan, of France, benefactress and sincere friend of the University, she has carried on her late husband's tradition of service to the Jewish people and the State of Israel.



Prof. Nathan Zach

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Prof. Annon Pazy, Chairman, Planning and Budgeting Committee, Council for Higher Education
Mr. Matty Morgenstern, President and CEO, Zim - Israel Navigation Co.

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The referendum question

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin seems vague on the subject of a referendum to determine the fate of the Golan. Last year he said he would go to the people only if the government decided on a "meaningful" withdrawal. Earlier this week he said that any agreement to withdraw would require popular approval. Yesterday he again returned to the "meaningful withdrawal" formulation, and in a speech before the United Kibbutz Movement he even used a more ambiguous statement: "We'll hold a referendum if the withdrawal exceeds what we originally said we would do."

(It is perhaps this kind of ambiguity which creates doubts about the government's sincerity. According to a Gallup poll commissioned by an organization called Pro Israel and published yesterday, almost as many respondents - 40.8 percent - do not expect the government to live up to its pledge on holding a referendum as those who believe it will - 48.3%.)

But what matters is not the formulation, obviously intended to give the government freedom to make a preliminary "gesture" without the public's approval. Both Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres have made it clear that they are willing to cede the whole Golan. The dispute with Damascus is not over the Heights, but whether the withdrawal should be to the international border, delineated in 1923, or further - to the June 1967 lines, on Israel's side of the international border - or even further west, to the 1949 armistice lines. There is no question that the intended final withdrawal is "meaningful," and that a referendum is in order.

What is still unclear is how the referendum will be conducted and its fairness ensured. The excessive use of referenda by totalitarian regimes has given them a bad name. (When the late Menachem Begin proposed a referendum in 1958, the Labor Party called it a "Bonapartist, fascist and totalitarian" idea.) But there are also many democracies (Switzerland is an outstanding example), which use referenda often and efficiently. Most recently, the European Union countries held referenda to approve the Maastricht agreement.

That some form of public approval is necessary in the case of the Golan is a given. Despite Peres's rash and possibly illegal statement that the Golan is Syrian territory, Israeli law says that it is part of Israel. To cede Israeli territory, particularly by a government which came to power on the promise that it would never aban-

don this territory, is a fateful national decision. It may affect the nation's destiny more than any voluntary move in its history. To allow a majority of one or two in the Knesset to enable the government to take such a grave step is unthinkable. No democracy makes momentous decisions without ensuring that it has the support of a large majority.

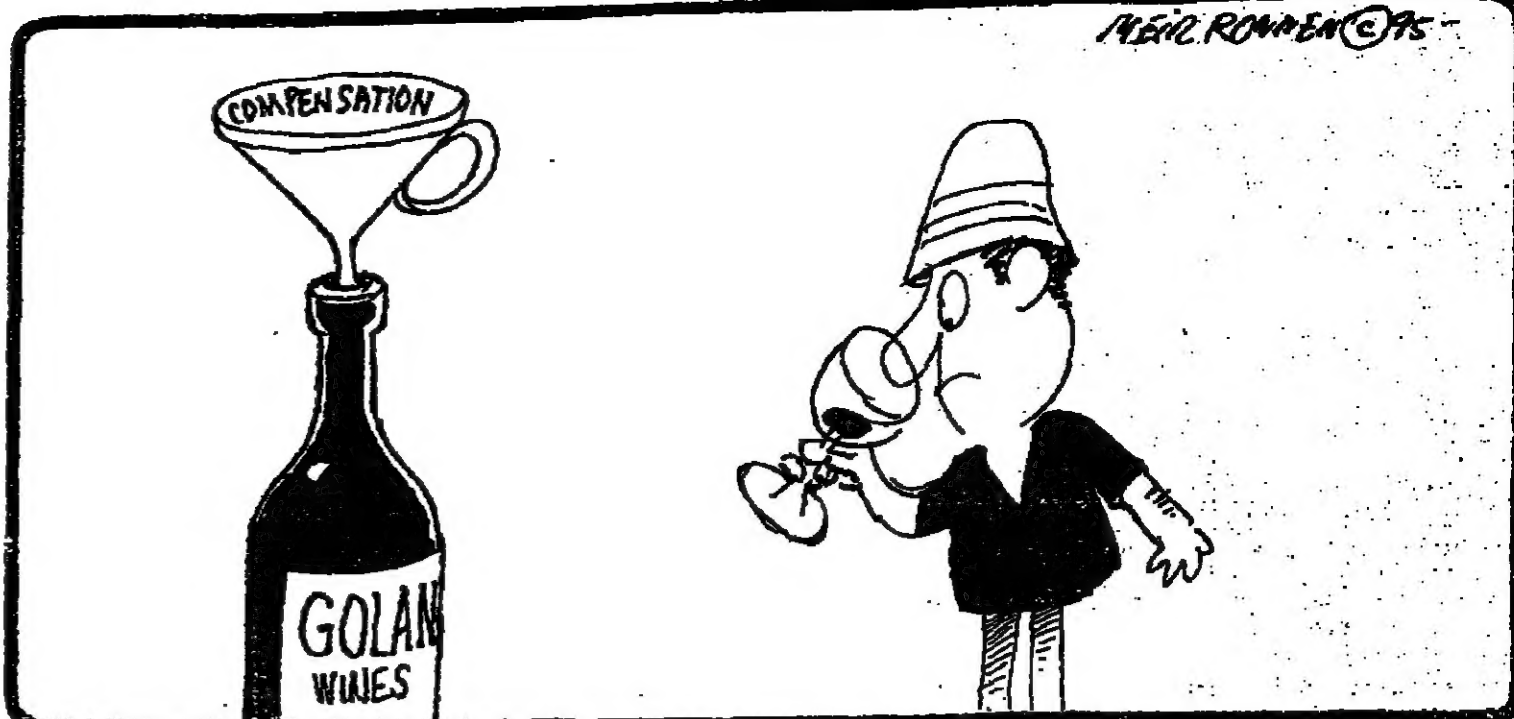
Nor should the referendum be determined by a simple majority. In the past few days, Rabin has been taunting opponents of withdrawal for demanding a special majority. Repeatedly, he has said, "If they are so sure that the people are against withdrawal, why are they afraid of a simple majority?"

But these taunts are disingenuous. Virtually all important referenda, particularly those that change the nation's course, are determined by a special majority. As a comprehensive paper issued by the Shalem Center puts it, a simple majority does not build up public support, it creates embittered opposition, and makes unity impossible. "The narrower the margin of victory, the more likely it is to open a profound, divisive and long-lasting conflict whose effects are more damaging to the basic unity of the country than the issue itself."

In Israel there is a special reason for demanding more than a simple majority. This is not just another democracy; it is also a Jewish state. On matters which directly affect its destiny, and only on such matters, it must act with the backing of a Jewish majority. In a referendum on an agreement with Syria, it can be taken for granted that the Arab part of the electorate, constituting 17 percent, will vote for total withdrawal from the Golan. This means that if only a simple majority is required for passage, the move can be opposed by a majority of Jewish voters and still pass.

The Shalem Center proposes that the referendum question should be decided by a majority of the eligible voters, rather than just a majority of the actual voters. But any system that will require more than a simple majority of the voters may be practicable.

In fact, the most convincing solution may be to let a general election determine the fate of an agreement with Syria. An election for the prime minister and the Knesset at a time when the parties' positions are unmistakable will save the electorate going to the polls twice. It will also afford the winners a four-year tenure in which to translate their victory to action.



Beyond the fence into hell

ALOUPH HAREVEN

SECURITY experts agree that if Iran succeeds in making a nuclear bomb, it will endanger Israel more than any other threat. But an even worse threat to the state's long-term security can be found less than an hour's drive from Jerusalem and the Dan region.

According to the World Bank, the Gaza Strip's population in the year 2030 will reach 2.4 million, or about two and a half times what it is today.

Most of us prefer to ignore the hell being created for the Strip's inhabitants, who live in unendurable crowded conditions and crushing hardship. So far, they have had no concrete signs of a better future.

Beyond their fence of hell lies prosperous Israel, full of well-being, complacent. Compared to the Gazans, most of us are enormously wealthy.

Israel ruled the area for 27 years and bore full responsibility for its residents, most of whom were born after 1967. While there were members of the defense establishment who demanded that

the Strip be developed, their calls remained mostly in a vacuum.

For 17 years, the national priority was building paradises for the settlers, 10 minutes' ride away.

In the 1980s, Ariel Sharon proposed that Gaza be developed into another Hong Kong; but

sands of Palestinians in the Strip turn out to cheer the murderers.

ANYONE WHO believes that the Arab countries - who all already suffer from over-population - would agree to absorb even some of Gaza's population is deluding himself. That also goes for

Things will only improve for the Gazans when their neighbors show they care

nothing was done. Indeed, things went in the opposite direction.

Should we wonder, then, that the Gazans' despair has driven them to the conclusion that if their life is a hell, why shouldn't Israel's lives be hell too - especially since their imams encourage them to believe that anyone who attacks Israelis is assured of reaching paradise?

With each terrorist attack that costs Israel lives, tens of thou-

sands of Palestinians in the Strip turn out to cheer the murderers.

The government and the defense establishment are aware of the severity of the situation, and efforts are being made to secure international assistance so that the grim picture may be changed.

But Israel's contribution to generating such a change is, at most, a few dozen million dollars out of a state budget of dozens of

billions - meaning that not even the government views the condition of Gaza's inhabitants as a top state priority.

Given Israel's considerable responsibility for the Gazan hell, should the national priority be limited to setting up a fence, actually worsening the situation there?

And how does solving the Gaza problem compare to other national priorities? Is, for example, the trans-Israel highway, which will cost billions, more important than creating means of production and employment in Gaza?

There is a will in the government to solve the problem. But it is doubtful whether there is a willingness to concentrate the effort needed for significant change in the foreseeable future.

The hell will only end when those living in it hear from their neighbors across the fence that they really care.

The writer is co-director of Siklag, the Association for the Advancement of Equal Opportunity.

To my candid, envious friend

YOSEF LAPID

THE Independence Day edition of Tel Aviv's local *Ha'ir* weekly ran an article by the Palestinian-Israeli writer Anton Shammas, penned with his usual fluency.

"Ladies and gentlemen," he wrote, "the time has come, on this festive day, to admit with complete candor, without shame or downcast eyes, that the whole business has turned out badly. The Zionist adventure has been a total failure."

It's a good thing Shammas came out and said it. Because an article like this, by an authoritative Arab intellectual, is a fine opportunity to express a few truths one hesitates to voice without a suitable pretext.

Shammas, my friend: Zionism is the greatest success story of the 20th century. Fifty years after the defeat of Hitler and the mufli of Jerusalem, Zionism is thriving in the heart of the Middle East. In a state of 4.5 million Jews - Jews whose survival was, for a moment, in doubt.

The Hebrew language (one of Zionism's wonders) has bonded sabras and refugees from the camps, Sephardim and Oriental Jews. Within half a century, the Zionists, starting with almost nothing, have forged a state which launches its own space satellites and provides the US Navy with pilotless drones. It exports sophisticated computer programs

and teaches Latin Americans how to grow melons.

Every month this state exports goods worth a billion dollars and more to Western Europe, the US and even Japan; it has an exemplary democracy, one in which cabinet ministers fear the state comptroller, and judges fear only God.

This state has produced an army deemed one of the world's best; there is little violent crime,

what he cannot bear is the fact that, held up in the light of Zionism's achievements, the Arabs' failure appears so humiliating and depressing.

HOW MANY Palestinians are there, my friend? One million - two, three? And how many Arab states are there around you? Twenty? Twenty countries of kings and dictators, of terror and bloodshed. There isn't a single

You blast Zionism, when what you can't stomach is the Arabs' failure

and many fine concerts. People of all religions enjoy freedom of worship, and non-believers are welcome too.

Ten percent of the country's citizens are new immigrants; and 89 percent think that, despite all the hardships - and the Jewish Agency - it's a good place to live in.

This is a state in which an Anton Shammas is free, on a national holiday, to publish a virulent attack on everything that the Jews living in the state hold dear.

Shammas might be able to forgive us for all this, perhaps. But

Arab democracy, one with freedom of expression and civil rights.

You talk about the failure of the State of Israel. Compared to what? Algeria? Egypt? Iraq?

How many Arabs live between the Atlantic Ocean and the Persian Gulf? A hundred million? Two hundred million? And how many Moslems are there? A billion?

All of them pray to the same Allah, in the name of the same prophet, Mohammed. And all of them together can't solve Gaza's sewage problem.

For 47 years you've been pre-

paring for Palestinian independence, and yet you're still collecting the garbage in Jericho.

With all the oil in the world, you can't muster the Arab brotherhood needed to build a hospital in Deir el-Balah. And all the gold faucets in Saudi Arabia and all the jacuzzis in Kuwait aren't enough to provide clean drinking water for Jabalya.

When all's said and done, my friend, you know very well that if almost a million Jews lived in Gaza, surrounded by 20 Jewish states, Jewish Gaza would be paradise on earth. Palestinian laborers would be lining up at the Erez Junction facing the other way to get work in Gaza.

If there were a billion believing Jews in the world, Gaza's Jews wouldn't need handouts from the UN; the world's Jews would have taken care of Gaza's Jews, and they would long since have converted Gaza into the pearl of the Mediterranean.

You know all this, Anton Shammas, and that's what's eating you. Envy has led you into irrationality.

Thus the time has come, with complete candor, without shame or downcast eyes, to conclude: It hasn't worked out, this whole business: The Palestinian adventure has been a total failure.

The writer is an editorial writer for *Ma'ariv*.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CREDULITY STRAIN

Sir, - Professor Rist's letter in defense of the Catholic Church's Holocaust record (May 17) is egregious.

To suggest that the Church refrained from protesting genocide for fear that "futile gestures" might kill more than they would save strains credulity beyond the breaking point. The Church is an authoritative institution by nature (with millions of Germans and Austrians (not to mention Frenchmen, Poles and Ukrainians) adhere; many of these occupied positions of some degree of authority during the Nazi era. It is not believable that, in an atmosphere of strong Church condemnation of Nazi brutality, at least some of these functionaries would not have thought twice before perpetrating mass murder in their own sphere of action. To argue that all those good Catholics (so termed by a more recent pontiff in the context of the Waldheim affair) would have murdered even more Jews in reaction to Church prohibition is even more far-fetched.

Professor Rist's analogy with "rabbits who absolve murder..." is also faulty. Judaism is not a monolith, as is the Church, and the errors of a rabbi are his own, not those of an organization to which he owes allegiance. Even more to the point, no rabbi can "absolve" anybody of any sin: an observant Jew confesses his sins directly to God, and has no need of a human intermediary, alive or dead.

STAN GOODMAN
Kiryat Tivon.

'TIME OUT'

Sir, - Congratulations to you and your staff on including the BBC in your TV programs in *Time Out*. Together with those featured in the *Discovery* program, I think the majority of the BBC documentaries are among the most outstanding internationally, and *Time Out* is the only source where one can find a comprehensive weekly list of them. So please keep featuring the BBC presentations. I think a great many of your readers are going to appreciate it enormously.

BETTY KATZ
Kiron.

EXAGGERATED RESPONSE

Sir, - Jack Avital's behavior in New York towards Shulamit Aloni was undignified, inappropriate and wrong. However, to equate it, as you did in your editorial of May 22, with "fascist tactics" and the "mocking of all precepts of democracy and free speech," and to label Mr. Avital as "a blot on the name of the Jewish people," is an exaggerated response and itself inappropriate.

Mr. Avital is a single individual who was apparently acting on his own. Your editorial's harsh descriptions are better suited for government-sponsored or other organized actions, such as the attempt by this government to quash debate in the US regarding the stationing of US troops on the Golan. Additionally, a Jewish government that incessantly attempts to neutralize virtually all that is Jewish in the Jewish state and which includes ministers who could suggest that the word *Yehudi* be removed from the national anthem is a much greater blot on the name of the Jewish people.

Finally, the editorial states that if community leaders do not uproot actions such as Mr. Avital's, a "breach between the government and the community will become inevitable." While this may or may not be true, it is of far greater importance to relations with the US Jewish community that it see that a breach between government and community has not occurred here in Israel. When a government chooses to pursue its Golan agenda despite overwhelming opposition by the nation and when a prime minister insists that he is doing not what the people want, but what they need, an irreparable breach has already occurred.

BARRY ROZENBERG
Ma'aleh Adumim.

THANKS

Sir, - Congratulations to Editor Ruth Kern and staff on the new format of the weekend *Time Out* supplement.

The expanded coverage of TV and cable programs will, I am sure, be greatly appreciated by many readers who can now, at a glance, see everything of interest that is on offer.

EDWIN WILDE
Ramat Gan.

DIVIDED WE FALL

Sir, - The consequences of the suspension of the Jerusalem land expropriation announced by our government on May 21 highlight the bungling incompetence and humiliating weakness of those who aspire to being our political leaders.

After three weeks of international juggling, the government gave in to Arab pressure, making Israel the laughing stock of the international press, radio and television networks. Weakness encourages those who wish to bully and dictate to us, which in its turn inevitably leads to more weakness. This is simply demonstrated by the latest threat of the Knesset Arab Hadash party to call another vote of confidence in the government if the July 1 deadline for elections and IDF redeployment in Judea and Samaria is not met. What a mess this country finds itself in when government policy is so bankrupt that it abides by the rules laid down by the Arab states, the Palestinian Authority in Gaza, and the representatives of the PLO, who politicize in Jerusalem unrestricted.

Mr. Rabin tells us that Israel is militarily strong. But what of its people? History shows that the military might of a country means nothing if its people are demoralized and frustrated, and the mood of the Israeli public can presently be classified in these terms. The country and its people are divided, giving encouragement to our enemies, and in such terms we must recall the age-old axiom "United we stand, divided we fall."

STANLEY SHAPIRO
Ra'anana.

KINDERTRANSPORTS

Sir, - We should like to draw the attention of all ex-Kindertransportees in Israel to our annual picnic, which will be taking place on Wednesday, June 7, at Ganai Yehoshua, Hayarkon Park, Tel Aviv, from 10 a.m. onwards. We look forward to seeing many of our old - and new - friends. Further details can be obtained by phoning 04-245004, or 02-634978.

FRITZI SESSLER,
Kindertransportee,
Israeli Group
Jerusalem.

POSTSCRIPTS

IF YOU'RE into pure animal attraction, try the San Francisco Zoo Sex Tour.

Visitors learn that the penguin is the most romantic of animals. The male digs a burrow and decorates it with whatever he can find - even the bones of dead penguins. The female, not easily impressed, drags everything outside. The male brings items back in and the female takes them back out until the two are finally satisfied with the decor. They only breed once a year.

On the other hand, the lions can mate more than twice an hour, every hour in the day. Bald eagles mate in flight. As the female soars overhead, the male flies underneath her upside down. The birds lock talons and plummet toward earth. (Now you know why they're endangered.)

With the African hedgehog, getting together can be dangerous business. Only when the female is entirely agreeable will her spines lie flat so the male can mount. "When she's not ready,

he knows it," a guide said.

Some animals never get it right. Take Roly and Foly, the pigmy hippopotamuses: "He'd put it in her ear," the guide said. "He'd put it under her arm. In 26 years he never put it in the right spot."

GREAT NEWS! There was some support expressed in Johannesburg recently for an embassy to be built in Jerusalem. Mind you, it would be an embassy for creatures from outer space.

Swiss eye surgeon Francois Pitton told a group of international "ufologists" meeting in South Africa that "extra-terrestrials will need a safe place, so they have asked to land in an embassy." Pitton says his International Raclien Movement regularly communicates with aliens from other planets.

He said Jerusalem was a natural choice for the alien mission because of its centrality to Judaism and Christianity.

MARGOT WALLSTROM, Sweden's minister of culture, may be the first of a new breed of politician. Rather than spend her time in the capital, Wallstrom generally stays at home - deep in the Swedish hinterland.

Except for twice-weekly cabinet meetings in Stockholm, Wallstrom communicates with her ministry and government by electronic means from Karlstad, her remote hometown in pulp-and-paper country, about 270 km. west of Stockholm. The minister manages to take care of her two young children while overseeing the country's culture.

Wallstrom does not even live in Karlstad but further beyond, "in the middle of nowhere." According to the *Economist*, Wallstrom commutes to a mini-office in Karlstad.

What with the fax and the e-mail, as well as the telephone, it all costs the Swedish taxpayer the equivalent of NIS 510,000 to set up and run the tele-show. The government doesn't object to the

cost because a baby-minding minister encourages people in sparsely populated Sweden to tele-commute.

A SURPRISED mother in western China gave birth to a baby girl 20 days after the birth of the baby's twin sister.

Ma Zhengfang told a doctor she still felt a weight in her stomach after the birth of her first child, but she was assured any discomfort would soon disappear.

Only after Ma had suffered almost three weeks of pain did the nervous doctor decide to send her to hospital where staff discovered she was still pregnant.

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S pet dogs have been fitted with identification microchips as part of a campaign by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Royal cocker spaniels Oxo and Bisto had the chips placed in the loose skin behind their necks in a quick, painless procedure.

Jerusalem

Giants and dwarfs

JONATHAN BLASS

WHAT the giving of the Torah should engender festivities and celebration says much about the vision of man that is at the root of Jewish thought and history.

After all, the Torah is a binding code of ethics and behavior that imposes 613 obligations and teaches the world an uncompromising monotheism radically intolerant of other gods.

The Jewish vision of man is one of human greatness.

Addressed by the Creator of the entire universe, our actions subjected to divine command, we learn that our own existence and what we do with the physical world have absolute significance; that we are intimately linked with transcendent truths that demand more of us than merely "live and let live."

We discover that our lives have moral purpose. Through us, the material world, the animate and inanimate, assumes meaning. What we say, whom we marry, where we live - even what we eat and what we wear - all have impact that transcends the merely mundane.

Man matters. The world matters. What could be a greater reason for celebration?

But that celebration, set against today's cultural background with its stress on personal freedoms and facile conflict-avoidance, stands out as a stark anomaly.

This is not just because the commandments of the Torah restrict individual choice by confining subjective self-definition to areas that have not been already divinely determined. It is also because an absolute, universally binding stan-

dard of right and wrong (beyond a general, almost meaningless, injunction against injuring someone else) is an almost certain cause of friction between those who adopt that standard, and those who do not.

It is no accident, for example, that Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni, arguing for coex-

On Shavuot, man was shown the infinite and told: 'Act upon it'

istence (*The Jerusalem Post*, May 5), drew on Greek mythology and praised the Muses, to the detriment of "the Lord of Hosts."

Esthetics aren't nearly as divisive as ethics. These less-than-virtuous ladies of myth, committed only to beauty and to themselves (legend has it they turned human rivals into maggies) jibe more with Aloni's pluralism than the God of Israel and his moral absolutism.

John Lennon, imagining people "living life in peace," saw a world not only with "no religion," but also with "no heaven, above us only sky."

Dwarfing man to the point where the heavens are no longer within his view is the price Lennon was willing to pay to build a world without conflict.

Man is elevated by his encoun-

ter with God - but life does become more demanding and less open to compromise.

At a recent debate on the future of Judea and Samaria, Meretz MK Benny Temkin confessed that he found it difficult to deal with people who felt God spoke to them, that he preferred those who talked only with people.

But without the dialogue with God that began at Sinai, what reason can there be for the existence of a Jewish nation? Or, more generally, if man is alone, without God, what need is there for man? The alternatives - utilitarian, esthetic or hedonistic - all diminish human stature.

The revelation of the Law at Sinai taught man that he was created in the image of his Creator, that his actions in the finite world, like those of the God that created it, have transcendent importance that allow him to emerge from its limiting confines.

On Shavuot, man was shown the infinite - in himself and in his world - and was commanded, in detail, to act upon it.

More than 3,000 years after man was first startled to hear the words "I am the Lord your God" from God Himself, the message is still both inspiring and relevant. It remains at the heart of Israel's political debate.

In the contest between that message and other political philosophies it is worth contrasting the visions of man they present.

The writer, rabbi of Neveh Tzaf in Samaria, heads Ratzon Yehuda, a rabbinical training program for graduates of Yeshivat Hesder.



Question of survival

IN the next few days well over 1,000 young American Jewish students will be returning home after graduating from protracted study programs at a wide range of Israeli institutions. These range from high school, kibbutz, youth movement and yeshiva programs to freshman and junior-year semester and full-year programs at five of our universities.

Studies of some of the longer-established programs show that a significant minority of their graduates will return as immigrants. More important, the vast majority will become committed Jews, active in their local Jewish communities.

These programs are one of Israel's most important contributions to the cause of Jewish continuity in the Diaspora.

The success of the personal approach embodied in these programs should be contrasted with the traditional Israeli approach to American Jewry, recently so crudely expressed by President Weizman: "You should all come on aliyah - and until you do, there's really not much for us to talk about."

Israeli leaders from David Ben-Gurion on have been resorting to that approach for the past half century - in between begging for American Jewish money and political influence - with very little to show for their efforts. Aliyah from the US has been infinitesimal, with the exception of a small spurt in the years immediately following the Six Day War.

YOSEF GOELL

The lesson to be learned is not that the Zionist ideal of aliyah is wrong, but that telling contented Diaspora communities to pack up and come to live in Israel or be relegated to a status of Jewish inferiority is.

During the 115 years since ideological Zionism jelled in Eastern Europe, only an embarrassingly small minority of Dias-

The priority is remaining Jewish. Then, aliyah

pore Jews who had a choice, including dedicated Zionists, have actually chosen to come and to stick it out here.

On lecture tours in the US, I have never actively proselytized for aliyah. As a veteran American immigrant, I believe that aliyah is such a personal act that for a total stranger to exhort someone to pull up his or her roots and move to a strange country verges on lutzpa.

What I have always tried to do is push the idea of American Jewish parents sending their teenage children for a protracted stay in Israel. I tell them that this is the best investment for ensuring that their kids turn on to being Jewish and remain Jewish, whether in Israel or in the US.

I HAVE to admit that I haven't had more success than the Jewish Agency emissaries in doing the aliyah bit. On a recent trip, however, I encountered much more encouraging responses.

Many Jewish communal leaders, dismayed by the findings of recent demographic studies and, more important, many Jewish

parents, are frantically casting around for ways to keep their children Jewish.

Israel can and must provide a major part of that answer.

Several years back, I interviewed a large number of teenage American Jewish participants in a variety of Israeli educational programs. All had varying personal experiences, but they were nearly unanimous in agreeing: "This has been the best year in my life," and "I never really gave it much thought before, but it's cool being Jewish - and not because I owe it to Mom and Dad, or to the Jewish people."

A significant minority of graduates of these programs have since come on aliyah. And perhaps even more significant: Very many of those who returned to the US have become actively involved in the Jewish life of their communities.

This was the result of living in a total Jewish milieu for the better part of a year, at an extremely impressionable age.

I am convinced that encouraging Jewish parents and communities to send tens of thousands of young Jews for a protracted experience in Israel is an idea whose time has come. I can think of no Israeli target for Jewish money that should have a higher priority than the subsidizing of such a program.

As we approach Israel's jubilee, it is an incontrovertible fact that this country, which was created to ensure Jewish survival, has made it. The current threat to Jewish survival is in the Diaspora.

For so long Israel has been on the taking end of the Israel-Diaspora relationship. Now it must mobilize to give whatever it can to a cause that is vital to both partners.

The writer comments on public affairs.

A dose of poison in Detroit

JEROME KAUFMAN

SO much for resolutions. I had resolved to stay still and not make a jackass out of myself.

But then Hanan Ashrawi said to her audience in Detroit, Michigan: "I don't know of any Arabs that have demanded that Israel be thrown into the sea. The only ones I have ever heard say that were Israelis supposedly quoting Arabs."

At that point, my resolution went down the tubes. I jumped up at the back of a room full of over 500 Arab sympathizers, totally embarrassing the pro-Arab contingent with whom I was sitting, and hollered out that I had such a statement.

I added, in my usual diplomatic fashion, that the statement was already two days old. Would that be all right?

"Yes," she said. "Please bring up the statement. I would like to see it."

I took her the statement that had been quoted on May 12 at Gaza City's Shawa cultural center, in a speech in the name of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat by his so-called Minister of Justice, Freih Abu Midein.

Ashrawi, of course, didn't read the statement out to the audience. She simply dismissed statements of that sort as the words of "extremists." Evidently, she chose to ignore the fact that the extremist quoted in this case was Prime Minister Rabin's partner in the "peace talks," Arafat.

What else did Ashrawi say? Her message was very clear. The myth of the grossly mistreated Palestinian Arab whose inalienable rights had been usurped and

whose land had been seized in wars of aggression by a merciless Israeli army under the leadership of the Zionists pervaded her entire speech.

The poor Arab now lived under great oppression and therefore was demanding the return of all his land and a nation of his

from the darling of the Jewish liberals.

ASHRAWI IS a "good" Arab, a "moderate." What then is a radical? What else could she possibly demand that would not ultimately result in the demise of the State of Israel?

Ashrawi's delivery was beguiling and benign, like a chat with a favorite aunt

own with all the powers of an independent state.

What more did Ashrawi require for peace?

For starters: the cessation of all nation-building by the Israelis; no more immigration by "foreigners"; and no new settlements, or expansion of existing ones (of course, if all "their land" were returned this would be academic, since 144 beautifully developed communities with 150,000 Israelis would be turned over to the Arabs).

Ashrawi demanded the right of return of millions of Palestinian exiles (never mind that the original number that left Israel was closer to 400,000); compensation for "exiled" Palestinian Arabs on account of lost businesses, property, etc.; Jerusalem as the undivided capital of two states, and the release of all Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails.

These were the requirements

in this same speech.) They must maintain their will and resolve, and not acquiesce to anything less than the conditions enumerated. Never must they allow their will to be broken. Never give up the struggle, though "the road would be long and hard."

I reported all this to a young Jewish Zionist friend. I noted all Ashrawi's lies and distortions, the misinformation, the historical revisionism.

Her response was very telling. She said: "I have heard Ashrawi. I admire her. She is doing whatever she can for her people."

"I blame the Jews," she said. "Where are they? Why aren't they out there refuting all these lies and distortions? Why aren't they protecting their own people and insisting on their own nation-building and continued right to expand, to grow and to prosper, especially on land to which they have a far more legitimate historical, political and, yes, biblical claim?"

Where are they, indeed?

The writer is an ophthalmologist who lives in Michigan.

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**HUMANITARIAN CHALLENGES TODAY
IN THE ICRC'S VIEW**

on Tuesday, 6 June 1995, at 6:00 p.m.
Malka Brender Hall of Justice, Trubowicz Building
Tel Aviv University Campus, Ramat Aviv
Entrance through Ramneanu Gate (4)
(By invitation only)

עידית רעווה
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The Raanana Municipality,
The Jerusalem Post and ESRA present:

VIEWPOINTS

On "CHANGING VALUES AND
ATTITUDES TOWARDS
THE ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCES"

Panel: Major General (Res.) M.K. Ori Orr,
Chairman of Foreign Affairs and Defense
Committee of the Knesset
Brigadier General (Res.) Ephraim Lapid,
former I.D.F. Spokesman
Prof. Stuart Cohen, Political Science Dept.
Bar-Ilan University

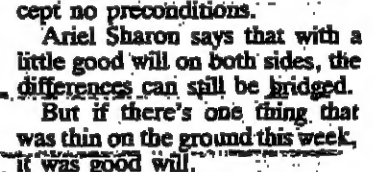
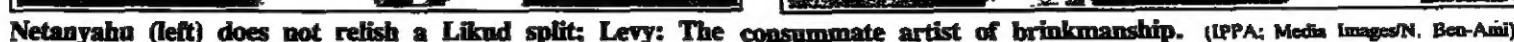
Moderator: Dr. Yoram Peri, Editor-in-Chief of Davar
Date: Sunday, June 11, 1995
Time: 8:30 p.m.
Venue: Yad Labanim, 147 Ahuza St., Raanana
Cost: NIS 15

רעווה עידית


Likud insiders are split over the outcome of David Levy's threats to leave the party, Michal Yudelman writes

Under the primary system proposed by Netanyahu and present-

The secret of Netanyahu's calm lies, reportedly, in a recent survey which indicated that a new party led by Levy would get no more than two or three seats. "What survey?" a source close to Netanyahu asked. "The only sur-



Any slight to Levy's ego which many Likudniks believe has swelled beyond all reason —

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CULTURAL RESOURCES IN THE ELECTRONIC ERA
Beyond Enthusiasm: Some Critical Perspective

June 5-6, 1995
Malika Brender Hall of Justice, Trubowicz Building, Buchmann Faculty of Law

Monday, June 5
Session 1: 9:00-11:00, Themes and Issues
Welcome, Prof. Anita Shapira, Dean.
Lecturers: Dr. Ronald W. Zweig, Tel Aviv University; Prof. Ya'akov Choueka, Bar-Ilan University; Prof. Kathryn Sutherland, Nottingham University, UK; Dr. Allen Renear, Brown University, USA.

Session 2: 11:30-13:00, Humanities Computing Centers
Prof. John Unsworth, University of Virginia; Prof. Andrew Amour, Keio University, Japan; Dr. Marilyn Deegan, Oxford University, UK.

Session 3: 14:30-16:00, Archives
Dr. Edward Higgs, Oxford University, UK; Dr. Tuvia Friling, Ben-Gurion University, Dr. Irit Keyman, Hagana Archives.

Tuesday, June 6, 1995
Session 4: 9:00-10:30, Scholarly Publishing
Sir Charles Chadwyck-Healy, Chadwyck-Healy Ltd., UK; Dr. Ruth Glynn, Oxford University Press, UK; Michael Alexander, The British Library, UK.

Session 5: 11:00-12:30, Artifacts and Museums
Dr. Seamus Ross, The British Academy, UK; Costis Dallas, Director, Foundation of the Hellenic World, Athens; Lou Burnard, Oxford University, UK; Dr. Mark Greengrass, University of Sheffield; Prof. Bezalel Nardiss, Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

Session 6: 14:00-14:45, Humanities Computing and the University
Dr. Peter Denley, Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London, UK; Dr. Deian Hopkin, London Guildhall University.

Panel: 14:45-16:00, The Future of Humanities Computing
Full program available via Internet: <http://spinoza.tau.ac.il/> or by phone during office hours: 03-6409383. Lectures will be delivered in English. The public is invited.

THE JERUSALEM

Party time for Third Way founders

A new group is finding its way from an ideological movement to a centrist political party, Herb Keinon writes

A group of Labor party activists, including about a dozen MKs, launched an ideological group within the party last summer called the Third Way.

The expressed purpose of the group was to act as a balance, on the party's right, against the dovish circles on Labor's left. The ideological movement included longtime party stalwarts such as Yehuda Harel, dean of the Golan settlement movement and one of the founders of the first Golan settlement; poet Haim Gouri; and Shlomo Hillel, the head of Keren Hayesod and former Knesset speaker. It also listed as members ministers Ya'akov Tsur and Shimon Shetreet, and first-tier MKs such as Ori Orr, Gedalya Gal, Ra'anan Cohen and Avigdor Kahalani.

The notion appeared innocent and logical at the time. The party had two dovish circles - Mashov and Kfar Hayarok - and it seemed only natural that a right-wing circle should emerge as a counterbalance.

True, some eyebrows were raised when the media reported that NRP MK Haim Porat had helped raise seed money for the group, and others wondered what was going on when the group initiated a meeting with various Likud MKs, but all in all it seemed safe to assume that the members were - as they said - just trying to influence Labor from the inside.

At conventions and discussion groups, the movement's leaders said they were trying to infuse the party with the spirit of Golda Meir, Yisrael Galili and Yigal Allon: yes to territorial compromise, but no to total withdrawal. Yes to talks with Syria, but no to giving up the Golan. Yes to redeployment from Judea, Samaria and Gaza, but no to giving up the Jordan Valley or Greater Jerusalem.

In the meantime, however, a year has intervened. And not just any year. A year, said Harel, "when we have seen the classic Labor Party positions disappear from the map."

As a result, the movement is now poised to run in the next Knesset elections. The party's nascent organizational apparatus has not yet formally okayed the move, and when interviewed on the radio its spokesmen still say they are "looking into the various aspects of the matter," but it all seems a foregone conclusion. The three leaders of the movement - Harel, Kahalani and former chief of staff Dan Shomron - have all come out in favor of forming the party.

All but three of the Labor MKs - Kahalani, Emanuel Zissman and Ya'akov Sheli - have since dropped out of the movement. Shomron publicly embraced the movement in April, and - in a political culture that loves generals turned politicians - is widely considered a "prize catch." The



movement's leadership is heavy with ex-generals - among them former Mossad heads Yitzhak Hefsi and Zvi Zamir, former Air Force commander Mordechai Hod, and generals Amos Horev, Shlomo Inbar and Haim Nadel - but Shomron adds a well-known and recognizable face to the pantheon. He chuckles when asked why he decided to join the movement.

"It is a fateful hour," he said. "The decisions taken now will determine how we reap the Zionist fruits sown by generations. I always thought that the government was going too fast, but I didn't want to get involved and thought things would work themselves out. But now I see there is no choice."

Shomron said that had he felt the government was ready for a territorial compromise hemmed in by red lines beyond which it would not pass, then he would vote for Labor. But, he said, "the Likud says not one grain of sand, and Labor says to give up everything." A middle position, he added, is a necessity.

THE MIDDLE position regarding the Golan, he said, is to continue negotiating with the Syrians, but out of the realization that they have few strategic options, and that for security reasons the country cannot withdraw from the heights.

Shomron rejected Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's declaration in Morocco this week that

the Syrians will not accept anything less than total withdrawal, saying that because of President Hafez Assad's international isolation and domestic problems it is possible to come to a better deal with him. "Maybe it will take a little more time, but it is possible to come to a position we can live with."

Shomron's statements on the Golan are very general: Lines are not drawn, boundaries are not set. The same is true when he speaks of blocs of settlements that need to remain in Israeli hands in Judea and Samaria. The guiding principle is the Allon plan, but the details are not yet worked out. This fine tuning, he said, will be done when the Third Way draws up a platform.

The last centrist political party to burst onto the political scene was Yigael Yadin's Democratic Movement for Change, which captured 15 seats in the 1977 elections but disappeared by the 1981 elections. Shomron said he is not worried about that precedent.

"I am not doing those types of calculations," he said. "My concern is to influence events now, at this critical juncture. If we can make a difference in [the elections in] 1996, then I don't care how many seats we get four years later."

Shomron would not discuss the David Levy saga, and the possibility of Levy bolting Likud and forming his own centrist party. Third Party spokesman Avi Kalstein, however, played down the

effect this would have on the Third Way's chances. "Levy would siphon votes from the Likud," he said. "Our constituents are those who are disaffected with Labor." He said the Third Way has not had any contacts with Levy.

HEAVY WITH military men, the Third Way knows in which direction it wants the country to go on security and diplomatic matters. But how about other issues? Political parties, it is generally believed, need a stand on social, economic and religious issues as well.

"We're working on it," Shomron said.

Harel is even more blunt: "Both Labor and Likud say the same thing: less taxes, more services. So we'll say that as well."

The movement's message on religious matters, however, will be a bit different, Harel said. "We say more religious education, and fewer religious laws. Who can argue with that?"

The party is currently headed by a secretariat of 22, and a 100-member central committee. The secretariat, which will draw up policy, includes Harel, Guri, Hillel, the generals and three Labor MKs listed above, plus Efrat rabbi Shlomo Riskin, Meimad leader Rabbi Yehuda Amital, and Alex Lubozky, an Efrat resident and Hebrew University professor who was one of the founders of a dovish settlement ideological group called Tchelet.

Harel said that, when the Third Way was formed, "we didn't really have an idea of our goals. We just wanted our voice to be heard." Now he said, most activists in the movement realize that "you can't be boy scouts," that "on political matters only power counts," and that to get power "you have to get your hands dirty."

According to the latest published poll, Harel said, half of the country has heard of the movement, and it would receive six Knesset seats in the next elections. "Our polls," he said, "are more encouraging."

Harel said it does not pain him in the least to be leaving the Labor Party, in which he has been actively involved for close to 30 years. "A political party is not a home, family or kibbutz," he said without hesitation. "You can change parties like a pair of socks."

A winning vote that made Israeli Arabs the losers

A decision by Islamic Movement members against running for the Knesset cost it power that would have been equivalent to that of Shas, Jacob Dallal reports

IMAGINE a party in the next Knesset with a strong religious affiliation, like Shas, and about as many seats.

As part of the government, it would control several ministries and help shape policy.

If in the opposition, it would be the largest of the small parties and essential in any no-confidence vote.

Now imagine that this is an Arab party and that its spiritual mentor, the equivalent of Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, is Sheikh Abdullah Nimr Darwish, leader of the Islamic Movement here.

Such a scenario might well have played itself out had Darwish been able to persuade his movement's members to run as part of an all-Arab slate in the next Knesset election.

Darwish envisioned an Arab party of secular political figures, including PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's adviser Ahmed Tibi, as well as members of his religious movement.

The party would have received the support of the 60,000-strong Islamic Movement, according to its members, in addition to the votes Tibi would have brought.

But last week, more than a year of contemplating the move, Islamic Movement representatives flatly rejected the idea.

The movement decided to allow its members to vote in the next election, but it will not have its leaders run for the Knesset.

Beyond being a disappointment to Darwish, the decision dashes hopes for a strong Arab party in the next Knesset.

"It would have been better for the Israeli Arab population if they would take an active role," said Tibi, who said he is now seriously considering running on his own.

Deputy Health Minister Nawaf Massalha (Labor) also regretted the Islamic Movement's decision. "A large Arab representation in the Knesset would have increased the political strength of the Arab population," Massalha said.

the Islamic Movement could use its influence in the next Knesset to help the Palestinians and pressure Israel into making concessions.

Darwish already serves as a liaison between Arafat and Hamas in Gaza and has a good personal relationship with Tibi, Arafat's No. 1 man among Israeli Arabs.

WHEN THE 135 delegates of the Islamic Movement gathered in Darwish's village, Kfar Kassem, last Friday night to decide the issue, it was clear that the silent majority opposed Darwish's bold plan.

The meeting lasted into the early hours of the morning, with the vote leaving no room for doubt: only 40 delegates favored running for the Knesset, according to Ibrahim Sarsur, head of Kfar Kassem's local council.

The delegates did agree, however, to allow the movement's members to vote for an Arab party in the next elections, something that until now had been banned.

"It wasn't easy to go against Darwish," said Kassem Zaid, a retired journalist in Umm el-Fahm who has closely tracked the Islamic Movement. "The Islamic Movement is saying: 'We were able to lead on the local level, but as far as the Knesset, we don't want to take part.'"

According to Zaid and other observers, the vote indicates a clear shift of power away from Darwish to more conservative, radical members of the movement, foremost among them Kamal Hatib, the head of the movement in Kfar Kana.

Hatib and his ally Sheikh Raid Salah, the mayor of Umm el-Fahm, wanted to keep the movement restricted to the local level.

They said that bringing the movement into the Knesset would expose it and damage its credibility. If the movement made it to the Knesset, they argued, the party might prove ineffectual and not live up to expectations.

"If I were a member of the movement, I would have done the same thing," said Hadash MK Saleh Salim, a Christian Arab. "Running for the Knesset would have brought an end to the movement because of the inter-

nal bickering that would have gone on."

The stand also points to the reluctance of many in the movement to integrate into Israeli society.

Despite receiving permission under Islamic law to participate in a Jewish government, many would find watching members of their movement become Knesset members and swearing allegiance to the State of Israel highly unpalatable.

Movement members on both sides of the issue feel the debate was taken democratically.

"I personally and Sheikh Abdullah [Darwish] feel wonderful after the decision," Sarsur said, even though he supported running in the election.

For Darwish, who put his weight behind the move, it means a loss of credibility.

"Here was a liberal, moderate man, who was acceptable to the parties in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Internally, the movement's decision calls into question Darwish's leadership," Zaid said.

Darwish refused to be interviewed on the subject.

A POLL conducted for Tibi by Dr. Rachel Israeli of the Al-Midan Research Institute last week shows Tibi receiving 43 percent of the Israeli Arab vote.

Five hundred people were

polled and the margin of error was 4.4 percent, she said, which translates roughly into four Knesset seats, based on the last Knesset vote.

Al-Midan is a private company in Tel Aviv that does research and public-opinion surveys in the country's Arab sector and the territories, she said.

"There is a feeling among Israeli Arabs, particularly among the younger people, that there is room for a new Arab party," Israeli said.

Tibi is counting on an endorsement from Darwish and hopes that many of the movement's members, who will be voting in a national election for the first time, will support him.

"Darwish told Army Radio: 'If someone wants to vote for my friend Ahmed Tibi, do you think I'm going to tell him not to?'" Tibi said.

Even if Tibi's chances are good, there are still two other Arab-dominated parties to contend with: Abdul Wahab Darawshe Democratic Arab Party and Hadash.

Tibi has ruled out merging with Darawshe, and linking up with Hadash is also unlikely.

"There won't be a marriage between us and Tibi, not even an engagement," Hadash MK Salim said.

Salim, like many others, said it is impossible to have one united

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IDF plays catch-up with politics

Redeployment poses many problems, but the military leadership is not panicking, Steve Rodan reports

MAJ.-Gen. Ilan Biran was winding down his briefing on security in Judea and Samaria when the questions came fast and furious from skeptical settlers. A security liaison complained that the soldiers sent to guard his settlement were the worst the army had to offer.

Another voiced the fear that his community would be cut off from other Jewish settlements in the forthcoming IDF redeployment. Still others tried to draw Biran into discussing his personal feelings about the Israeli talks with the Palestinian Authority over the next stage of the Declaration of Principles.

But Biran, a compact man who peppers his speech with Yiddish and English, as well as Hebrew poetry, did not take the bait. "While I am still wearing this uniform, I can't talk about such things," he said. "If I have anything to say about red lines, I'll say it to the General Staff."

These days, the general is in the hot seat. On the one hand, he has been touring Jewish settlements under his command, seeking cooperation from the 130,000 Jewish residents of the territories for the forthcoming IDF redeployment. On the other hand, security sources and Jewish settlement leaders say that Biran, as well as the rest of the General Staff, are way behind schedule in implementing an IDF withdrawal and PA takeover in Judea and Samaria, despite the July 1 deadline for an agreed timetable

for redeployment and Palestinian elections.

Currently both sides are engaged in intensive talks to meet that deadline. The talks on Palestinian elections are said to be near completion. Negotiations on redeployment, led by IDF planning chief Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan, are reportedly proceeding slowly.

But the generals believe that the talks will be wrapped up within weeks by Prime Minister Rabin and Foreign Minister Peres, with many loose ends remaining. "The IDF is completely severed from the political talks," a senior security source said. "The General Staff submits plans and alternatives, but it is not kept up-to-date as to what the politicians are drawing up."

As IDF planners see it, redeployment would have soldiers outside each major Arab town, checking incoming and outgoing traffic, similar to what is now done in Jericho. The Palestinians, however, want the army to be restricted to Jewish settlements, with the rest of the area being under their control.

IDF plans for redeployment are described in a huge document titled "Rainbow II" (*Keshet Tzavim Bet*), which contains a price tag of NIS 980 million. The plan comprises a staged IDF withdrawal from major Arab population centers following the completion of 21 roads. The new routes total 130 kilometers, allowing motorists to bypass such



Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran to MK Hanan Porat: I won't discuss red lines. If you're asking me whether I can sleep at night, the answer is yes.

Arab cities as Tulkarm, Ramallah, El-Bireh and Halhoul. Under the plan, Hebron, a city of some 80,000 Arabs and 400 Jews, would not be part of the IDF redeployment.

Military sources stress that the construction of bypass roads is no simple matter, with some roads to be finished by no earlier than

January 1996 and others only in autumn next year.

The biggest road project is the Bethlehem bypass, a complicated route that begins near Artas and continues north past El-Khader and Beit Jala. The NIS 60m. project would link Gush Etzion and the Betar area to south Jerusalem.

The road's two tunnels are nearly completed. The obstacle is a proposed bridge that would span a large valley near El-Khader, construction of which has not yet begun. Security officials say it won't be finished before August 1996.

The problem for IDF commanders is that the Rabin gov-

ernment doesn't have that much time. Government ministers as well as aides to Rabin say that the prime minister now sees Palestinian elections taking place as early as November, with redeployment starting several weeks earlier. The first Arab city expected to be evacuated is Jenin, with Nablus the most likely city to follow.

For months, IDF planners have sought ways to speed up the process. Security sources say they have considered allocating extra funds to have construction proceed around-the-clock. Another proposal was to pave a detour road that would serve Israeli motorists driving from Gush Etzion to Jerusalem. The most promising route was through the Cremisan monastery area, but the Catholic Church has objected. "Without a new road," a senior IDF officer said, "the settlers will have to drive through Bethlehem, which would be under the control of the Palestinian Police. The situation would end up being similar to that of the Jericho road, which is often closed for security reasons."

IDF planners are counting on the government being able to persuade Palestinian Authority chief Yasser Arafat to allow the expropriation of thousands of dunams of land needed to build the bypasses. "These plans require the cooperation of the Palestinians," a military source said. "The assumption is that the Palestinians will help us in several fields, including cooperation in security."

Another problem for the IDF is money. The army has been forced to delay the start of bypasses for lack of funds. One year after the IDF pullout from Jericho, the road meant to bypass that town remains far from finished.

Last month, the government tried to satisfy the demands of the military by approving NIS 300m. as a startup for Rainbow II. The funds are being delayed in the Knesset Finance Committee because of a dispute over the real price tag for redeployment, which some parliamentarians say will end up way over NIS 1b.

THE MONEY will not only be spent on roads. About NIS 120m. is slated for improving the security of Jewish settlements. Some of them will receive electronic fences. All of them will receive state-of-the-art communications systems. IDF patrols will also obtain desert jeeps that will

be faster and larger than current models being used in the areas.

Jewish settlement leaders say they are uneasy about the lack of coordination between the government and the army. At a recent meeting between settlers and Biran, MK Hanan Porat of the National Religious Party came straight to the point. "I would like to know what your red lines are," Porat said. "I don't want to get you into trouble, but we have the right to ask."

Biran didn't hesitate. "I will not discuss red lines," he said. "If you are asking me whether I can sleep at night, the answer is yes."

Despite the problems, military sources say, there is no panic. There are sharp debates in both the General Staff and in meetings with government leaders. But the military sources say the politicians and the generals are cooperating well, and the army is prepared to evacuate Jenin as early as the end of October.

"The army is used to operating under pressure," said Col. (res.) Moshe Givati, a former brigade commander in Hebron and now a military historian. "If the politicians wanted Jenin evacuated by even July 1, the army could do it."

For Biran, himself, the redeployment plan has the air of déjà vu. He was involved in the withdrawal of IDF troops in 1984 in Lebanon from the Awali River to a 9-to-12-km. strip along the northern border, defined as the security zone. Then, as now, the withdrawal was accompanied by dire warnings from politicians of the dangers to Israel's security.

Meanwhile, Biran and his colleagues are under tight orders to keep their doubts to themselves. Rabin and Chief of Staff Amnon Shabak are said to be still smarting over an interview Biran gave last month in which he advised that redeployment be delayed until the bypass roads are completed. Today, generals must have permission from Shabak to speak to the media.

During his visit to the Gush Etzion comprehensive school on Jerusalem Day, Biran was asked by an eighth grader for his reaction to seeing Arabs, rather than Jews, pray at the Temple Mount. Biran, a 30-year veteran who was a junior paratrooper commander in the battle for Jerusalem, smiled and removed his sunglasses from his breast pocket. "There are things that I prefer to cover with my sunglasses," he said.

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The battle over the Golan teeters on borders

Syria and Israel agree on the Golan's military significance. The two countries draw different lines on everything else, Alon Pinkas reports

THE peace talks between Israel and Syria are now marked, and even defined, by the repetition of two terms: "symmetry" and "asymmetry."

The US-mediated single-page agenda on security arrangements highlights how the two sides differ over what those words mean. "Security experts" from both countries are to deal with the issues listed on the agenda, including demilitarization and force reductions to attain "symmetrical" security arrangements, with consideration for the topography of the Golan.

Israel, of course, has the disadvantage when its land area, economic resources and the like are compared to those of the entire Arab world. That means a war is not just a matter of battlefield tactics for the Jewish state, but of survival.

Still, one has to consider the balance of power, vulnerability and the fears that exist. That is why, say diplomatic and defense officials, Israel insists that security arrangements be carefully crafted, tightly defined, accurately delineated and mutually agreed on without dissent. That will reduce perceived dangers, making it harder for future leaders to find pretexts for amending the agreement or initiating hostilities because they feel they inherited a raw deal.

"The talks could collapse completely, because we insist on the nitty-gritty of these arrangements, but it's a price Syria has to accept in its own self-interest," says a senior army officer.

The first asymmetry concerns the size of the demilitarized zone east and west of the Golan and the reduction of forces. In this regard, there is a striking resemblance between the current negotiations and those that led to the 1974 disengagement agreement.

Then, the opening dialogue focused on the disengagement line, while US secretary of state Henry Kissinger proposed that the sides settle their differences on security arrangements. Later, they did. Now, they are starting with security.

In negotiating the disengagement line, Israel insisted on keeping the western "mounds line" - Tell Fares, Mount Bental and Tell Yussuf - while Syria sought

the eastern mounds contiguous to the disengagement line. They agreed on a symmetry of force dilution on both sides of the buffer zone.

The buffer zone was 10 kilometers wide, and the diluted-forces area was an additional 10 km. on both sides. Since then, the zone has been manned by a 1,250-strong UN force.

Israel demanded and, after two Kissinger shuttles, Assad agreed to limit the number of tanks allowed on either side of the line and to move anti-aircraft batteries 25 kilometers away from the front line.

In the upcoming negotiations, Israel may also demand that a vacant buffer zone be established in the middle third of the demilitarized zone. Both sides agree on the need to demilitarize the Golan, but differ over which other areas should be demilitarized and over Israel's desire to maintain a military presence on the Golan's eastern slopes during most of a multiphase withdrawal process.

Israel will insist that the demilitarized zone extend into Syrian territory, to Qatanah on the Kun-eitrah-Khan Arabah-Damascus road and south to Dera. The Syrians would demand a symmetrical demilitarization in Galilee, but may settle for less area. Beyond the zone, forces will be reduced.

Some in Israel, according to an army source, insist that Israeli forces be diluted within three to four km. along the eastern margin of the Golan for at least 20 years. The Syrians, he says, would never agree; but, if pressured, may be forced to accept a compromise of 10 years.

Another Israeli proposal, the source said, may be a diminishing military presence in prearranged stages, contingent upon the development of the peace agreement's other components, such as normalization and Syrian force reduction. As for the latter, a senior Planning Branch officer says it contains "interesting ideas and possibilities for both sides to consider seriously."

Another issue involving symmetry is warning stations. Israel will want to keep the station atop Mount Hermon and two or three others on mountains Avital and Bental and on Tell Yussuf. Con-

ceivably, a fourth station may be erected on top of Tell Fares in the southern Golan.

Israel will undoubtedly insist that the US compensate it for the withdrawal by providing access to high-resolution satellite information. But the Heights are often covered by low fog, which means satellite photos are no substitute for warning stations.

As for Syrian warning stations, Israel will not object to a Syrian station on the Hermon or, if negotiations progress, to that point, on Mount Meron.

Syria's insistence on symmetry is based on its national security concept:

- fear of an Israeli surprise attack;
- the direct threat Israel poses to Damascus;
- Israel's military use of Lebanese territory, enabling a pincer attack on Syria or the establishment of a two-front theater of operations;
- Israel's perceived ability to isolate Syria, as happened to a degree when it forged peace agreements with Egypt and Jordan and as the Arab world began opening to it;
- Israel's perceived nuclear capabilities, which cause concern and aggravate Syria's strategic "inferiority complex."

This concept developed in stages. In 1975, Syria developed the concept of "strategic parity" and "military balance" with Israel. In 1979, after Camp David, Syria initiated the formation of an "Eastern front" option, but it did not coalesce.

In 1982, after the start of the war in Lebanon, Syria began developing a doctrine of a simultaneous two-front war to counter what it perceived as Israel's preferred military strategy.

But the real military symmetry was attained only after Syria realized that it suffers from a conventional disadvantage vis-à-vis Israel and began developing its missile arsenal. Syria's forces now consist of heavy armored divisions, increasingly mobile infantry, an abundance of artillery and airborne commando units.

The emphasis since the late 1980s has been on surface-to-surface missiles. According to the Jaffee Center's *Middle East Military Balance*, Syria has over 62

launchers and several thousand missiles. They are organized in four brigades, consisting of an assortment of missiles, which include accurate Scud-Cs and possibly Chinese-made M-9s.

These forces offset Israel's air superiority and threaten its airfields.

Military sources view the Israel-Syria battlefield of the future, given a long impasse on the Golan, as a barrage of missiles against Israeli military and civilian targets. It would not involve a conventional armored struggle on the Golan, which the sources say would be "futile for the Syrians."

As negotiations begin, both sides seem to have a symmetrical understanding of the military importance of the Golan. In pure military terms, the Golan's significance is offensive rather than defensive. Whoever holds the Heights can use them as a springboard for attacks, but only on the tactical or operational levels.

If Israel holds the plateau, it threatens vital Syrian territory straddling the 55-km. road to Damascus. Syrian control of the Golan may not threaten Israeli industrial or population centers, but long-range surface-to-surface missiles do.

The Heights are important for one prime, strategic asset: water. Control of the Golan means control of Israel's water sources, the flow of the Banias River and the Kinneret. An Israeli withdrawal to the international border would put the Syrians 10 meters from the Kinneret and, according to international law, permit them to pump water from it.

The Golan's only other strategic importance is that it is militarily inseparable from Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. That is why both sides see it. Thus, any discussion on security arrangements in the Golan must, as far as both sides are concerned, include a similar and symmetrical discussion of the Bekaa. The Bekaa Valley enables both countries to stage a two-front attack that may centralize effort and forces, but poses the same on the defensive.

Syria should be more interested in including the Bekaa, since it ever plans to launch a conventional mobile offensive against Israel using the two-front scenario. It exposes the 55-km. long road leading from the Golan to Damascus.

With these symmetries and asymmetries in mind, it is difficult to see how Israeli and Syrian officers can bridge the gap, and they meet later in June in Washington.

Bar-Ilan University
Political Science Department

BESA Center
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**You are invited to a lecture,
to be delivered in Hebrew by**

MK Binyamin Netanyahu
Chairman of the Likud Party

on

**Where is the Political Process
Leading Us?**

Thursday, June 8, at 2 p.m.
Hall 10, Chemistry Building,
University Campus



Handwritten signature: J. H. Cohen

Likud: The only show in town

THE WEEK THAT WAS

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

And all who heard should see them there
And all should cry, Beware!
Beware!
His flashing eyes, his floating hair!

"Kubla Khan," by S.T. Coleridge

THIS was the week when Labor could sit back and relax for a change. The Likud was the best — the only — show in town.

The Golan settler, tragedy? The Knesset no-confidence farce? Assassins! They couldn't sell tickets to even half the house. But how the punters queued for the audience-participation spectacle of the Likud tearing itself apart.

Until this week, David Levy might have featured in one of those occasional "whatever happened to" sketches. Now it's "whatever happened to the Likud" — a full-blown gory drama, with Levy and Bibi Netanyahu center stage, hundreds of extras, and spontaneous entrances and exits of "grass roots" activists from across the country.

A magnificent performance, agreed the enthusiastic critics examining the pages of the Hebrew papers. But is it comedy or tragedy?

Well, we must wait for the ending to decide.

For the moment at least, it has been great entertainment — the national audience breathless for more. Will he, won't he (leave the Likud and form a new party)? And the melodramatic Levy, is getting rave reviews, bursting anew, on the scene like Kubla Khan's ancestral voice, prophesying war — a tragic hero, flashing eyes and floating hair.

For you behind-the-scenes addicts, the word is he does all his own stunts, including walking on the brink. But his hairdresser is in a tizz, darling. Will the star's impeccable mane survive the pace?

And Bibi? Well, the critics say, he is photogenic, body language not bad, knows how to catch the best stage-lighting. But his range as a character actor is somewhat limited, there is a lack of dramatic depth and tendency to fall back on mannerisms.

In the front row were spotted two chuckling former members of the Likud cast, hugely enjoying the performance — Ronni Milo and Ehud Olmert.

They left the company after Bibi became artistic director, because he refused them prominent roles. They walked out exactly when the line "To be or not to be" was uttered. As mayors of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, they now run their own shows.

Poor David had no choice (until now) but to stay in Likud, begging for better roles and dreaming of stardom.

After all, running for mayor of Beit She'an wouldn't exactly have that same glitzy aura, now, would it?

STARTING AT THE BOTTOM

Remember those hoary old tales of millionaires or newspaper editors who started as tea boys? We have a new one, tea boys working their way up to be wealthy tea boys.

The next time a judge or a Knesset member whimpers about how little he earns, we can suggest a lateral move to an equally well-paid career but without all that dreadful responsibility.

Wanted: person with little education and less skill, to work minimum hours for a Knesset salary.

Apply now for the unequal-opportunity post of tea boy (no girls) at the Hevra Kadisha in Tel Aviv. NIS 12,000. A month.

The really whiz judge or MK might aspire to the more ambitious post of messenger boy. NIS 13,000. A month.

The more lowly profession of corpse washing attracts a mere NIS 11,700 and these workers are probably ignored by snooty



Ramon's New Life plan not so enlivening for some of the elderly.

caretakers pulling in NIS 20,000 or, with some seniority, NIS 30,000. Tips during funerals, extra.

Yet, all this is still in the peanut ball park. Former Hevra Kadisha chairman Israel Ehrlich was paid NIS 76,000 a month, costing the nonprofit state burial monopoly a hefty NIS 1.3 million in 1993, according to a special comptroller's report prepared for the religious affairs minister. The figures are true only for 1993, so raises up to this year are not noted.

Ehrlich's deputy cost the company NIS 782,000 in 1993 for his gross of NIS 46,500 a month. But the director-general got a paltry NIS 27,000, for a labor cost of NIS 455,000 a year.

This is a gold-card organization to land a job with. The driver gets an average NIS 16,700. The office cashier puts aside NIS 22,850.

Is it any surprise the outfit has an NIS 18 million deficit? Or that in 1993 the Hevra Kadisha spent NIS 30.5m. on wages and NIS 12.5m. on cemeteries?

In case anyone is wondering why Hevra Kadisha workers are now in the midst of applying work sanctions — postponing all 24 to 30 daily funerals to after-noon hours — the answer should, of course, be obvious.

They want pay rises.

AND THE TEA LADY?

Alas, the proverbial Histadrut tea lady didn't fare so well. It was off to pasture for her when Haim Ramon took over the labor federation and ditched this most symbolic post of the old tea-drinking institution.

Off with the old, on with the Haim Hadashim (new life — Ramon's motto). So what's new with Haim?

Well, he's been busy with buddy Baiga Shohat, the finance minister, devising a program to save money. For employees? For pensioners?

Not quite. The good news is, this one will save the state money. The bad news is, it's at the expense of elderly new immigrants who will get a monthly pension of NIS 350. Or maybe no pension at all.

The old Histadrut pension plan guaranteed pensioners a minimum monthly income to save them from poverty even if they joined the pension fund at a late stage, a common situation for middle-aged new immigrants.

The New Life plan seems custom made to fit such new immigrants who may put in only 10 years of work before retiring. This period will entitle them to only 13 to 14 percent of the pension.

Even more genius lurks in the scheme. Under new pension-fund rules, anyone failing to reach 10 to 15 percent of the average pay will not get any monthly pension. She or he will get the amount deposited for pension in one lump sum as if it were a savings program.

Anyone for tea?

The country's driving record can improve — if we learn how to behave — a road safety official tells Haim Shapiro

ONIEL Schneller, the director of the Transport Ministry's Road Safety Administration, admits that Israelis may be among the world's worst drivers, but he says that does not mean they are among the most dangerous.

This week, which began with a cabinet meeting devoted to the issue of road accidents, was a busy one for Schneller, who says that Israel's record of road safety is better than that of other countries, but not good enough.

"If you judge by the number of accidents, then Israeli drivers are actually better than American drivers. If you are talking about their behavior on the road, then you are right [to say that Israelis are bad drivers]," he says.

The same cultural background that gives Israelis rough edges in their general behavior is also seen on the road, in the tendency not to give other drivers the right of way, or to honk unnecessarily. "It's not that we don't know how to drive, it's that we don't know how to behave," he says.

He attributes this to Israel being a relatively young country, with people from different cultural backgrounds, each with different expectations. There are bound to be cultural clashes.

Schneller maintains there is no single solution for road accidents, and the answer is not to lower speed limits. In fact, he was one of those who supported raising the speed limit on sections of interurban highways from 90 to 100 kilometers an hour.

"It was a question of whether we should raise it to 100 or 110," he says.

According to one school of thought, the higher the speed limit, the more traffic deaths there will be. This is not true, he says, adding that although the speed limit went up by 10 kilometers, the average speed of drivers, as measured by the authority, went up by an average of two kilometers an hour.

Prof. David Mahalel, head of the Technion's Transportation Research Institute, agrees. He recalls that years ago there was a suggestion to raise the speed limits, which he vigorously opposed. "Then we measured the speed and saw how fast everyone actually drove. You can't institute a law which the population won't obey," he says.

Schneller says that although there are more road accidents than we are willing to accept, Israel's record is not so bad when compared with that of other countries.

In 1994, in a list of 23 developed countries, Israel was fifth lowest in the per-capita rate of road deaths, with 9.7 per 100,000. Even Switzerland, which Israelis usually visualize as a bastion of law and order, had far higher rates, as did the US, France, Germany and Italy. In our part of the Mediterranean, Greece had many more traffic fatalities per capita.

However, the statistics are less favorable when we look at the number of deaths in comparison with the number of kilometers driven. Here the administration took a sample of 14 countries and found that Israel was in ninth place, with 20 deaths per billion kilometers traveled.

According to Mahalel, the problem of comparative statistics is a complex one, and ideally Israel should be compared with other countries with a similar number of kilometers driven. He adds that if there are more highways, such as the planned Trans-Israel Highway, there will probably be more accidents, but this does not mean that we should not



Among a list of 23 developed countries, Israel had the fifth lowest per capita rate of road deaths in 1994. (Brun Hendler)

build the highways.

"The best way to stop accidents would be for everyone to sit at home," Mahalel says.

Schneller is pleased that the issue is high enough on the national list of priorities to warrant a special cabinet meeting.

"In Israel, there is a very great sensitivity to road accidents. Perhaps it is because of the Jewish concern with human life, or perhaps it is because of our security situation," he says. In other countries, the public accepts road deaths as the price of technological development and the flow of traffic.

"Israel is moving in the right direction, but we have still not done enough," Schneller says, noting that the total number of accidents decreased by 6 percent in 1994, in comparison with 1993, despite the fact that there were more people and more cars on the roads.

It is important, he says, to get to the populations that are most susceptible, including children and the elderly, who make up the greatest number of victims as pedestrians; and young drivers, who have more than their share of accidents. Typically, Schneller says, it is not during the first year of driving that young people are likely to have accidents, but in the second year, when they think they know all there is to know about driving.

Schneller believes that driving behavior is culturally influenced, and thus it is important to get to potential drivers when they are very young. Israel is the only country in the world that has a nationwide school road-safety program, with children getting 25 to 30 hours of instruction every year in the early grades.

Whether this education will make the youngsters safer drivers when they grow up may be a matter of opinion, he says the classes do help in reducing pedestrian deaths. Last year, for the first time, we saw a decrease in the number of pedestrian accidents among the young.

At the same time, he says, as unpleasant as it may be, there must be stiff enforcement. Traffic violators still have a very small chance of being caught, and punishment is not harsh enough to deter them, nor does it come swiftly enough.

Until a few years ago, a driver could wait two or three years until his case came up in traffic court. Now it takes a month or two, but Schneller would like to see a maximum of 30 days.

Courts Administration spokeswoman Etty Eshed says it takes three or four months to process a traffic ticket and even longer for a trial. If there were more judges and more prosecutors, the time could be shortened, she says.

Schneller insists that the traffic police are good, but says there are not enough of them and they

do not have sufficiently sophisticated equipment. Five years ago, there was no national traffic police force, but there are still only 40 percent of the number of traffic policemen there should be, he says. The National Traffic Police Force has 410 members, with the number due to rise to 460 by the end of this year.

Asked why it seems there are hardly any police around, Schneller says: "You won't see many policemen on the main roads between Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa, but you will see them on the back roads where most of the accidents occur."

At the same time, the roads are not good enough to make up for

the mistakes of bad driving. Many highway shoulders are unpaved, making it harder for the driver to regain control if his car goes off the road. There are not enough dividers on the highways to prevent head-on collisions, and there are too many intersections which are not lit up at night, he says.

Public Works Department spokesman Meir Gazit says that the PWD is at present repairing and paving 390 roads, and that in every such project, the shoulders are paved. However, he adds, building one kilometer of highway costs \$1 million. The PWD also puts in median dividers on four-lane highways, but it cannot

do so on two-lane roads, he says.

The PWD is also lighting up highways and widening intersections, including the intersections on the Arava highway, which was the subject of protests in Eilat this week, he says.

"Just to give you an idea of the scope of our work, our budget was NIS 150 million in 1985, in today's terms. Last year it was NIS 1.2 billion and this year it is NIS 1.4 billion and will probably be increased," Gazit says.

Schneller says that just as there is no single cause for road accidents, there are no pat answers. "We can't outlaw traffic," he says, "but we can do everything possible to make it safer."

Putting the brake light on automatic

WHAT if, by adding an inexpensive gadget to all cars, you could prevent more than 1,500 accidents a year? Someone claims to be able to do just that.

Avigdor Kaner is the general manager of Baran Advanced Technologies, a subsidiary of Baran Engineering, which plans such giant projects as the Dead Sea Works and oil refineries in Egypt. He said his firm felt that, with 800 engineers, it should also be able to come up with some solutions for practical problems, and thus it set up the subsidiary that deals with technology for reducing road accidents.

Kaner says that in contrast to the US and Europe, which tend to concentrate on highly complex and expensive solutions, his company concentrates on technology which is very simple and cheap. In this case, his group focused on a way to lower the number of rear-end collisions by getting the driver behind to see the brake light faster.

The company developed something it called an Advanced Brake Warning (ABW), a small accessory that is attached to the gas pedal. When the driver takes his or her foot off the gas suddenly, the brake light goes on, even before the driver's foot hits the brake. By doing so, the light goes on between 0.35 and 0.45 of a second faster.

"At 100 kilometers an hour, that's 10 to 12 meters," Kaner says.

It took the company a year and a half to develop the ABW, and to ensure that the brake light would not go on every time the driver's foot went off the gas, he says. The device costs \$80, including installation, but if it were mandatory in Israel and thus widely manufactured, it would cost only \$20.

In addition, the company also worked on a way to get the brake light to light up faster. He noted that Volvo has installed neon lights that reduce the time from 250 milliseconds to 1 millisecond. However, he added, these lights cost \$25 apiece, or \$75 for three lights. For only \$2 a light, Baran has developed a system whereby the light filament stays hot, thus reducing the time needed for it to light up from 250 milliseconds to 100 milliseconds.

According to Kaner, by using both devices, rear-end accidents could be cut in half. He says that many importers — including those of General Motors, Opel, Saab, Isuzu, Subaru, Skoda, Hyundai and Ford vehicles — are voluntarily installing ABW, as have many companies with large fleets of cars.

The device is sold abroad, but nowhere is it mandatory equipment. Kaner would like to see the Transport Ministry make it mandatory. He adds that such an order would also help Baran convince other countries of the importance of the device.

Omiel Scheller, director of the Transport Ministry's Road Safety Administration, says that the ABW has been tested with other devices, but no independent study has yet to prove its effectiveness. He says that such a study has been under way for a year, but it will take another year to complete.

Kaner says that at least two car manufacturers, Renault and Nissan, are installing their own ABWs. Kaner does not know if it is identical to that developed by Baran, but he says that once you identify the objective of the ABW, it should not be difficult to find other technological solutions.

"That's why it's important for Israel to act fast," he says.

Peres's batteries get recharged during NY visit

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

MARILYN HENRY

WHEN it comes to Shimon Peres's appearances in New York, the organized Jewish community can drain his batteries while everyone else seems to recharge them.

This week's visit recharged them.

On Tuesday night, Peres was seated on stage, having an amiable conversation with a popular talk-show host and playing to an appreciative audience of 700 who laughed at all the right moments. Charlie Rose, the host of an acclaimed, cerebral talk show on US public television, asked reasonable questions and cushioned potentially difficult ones. That was at the East Side's 92nd Street

Y, the city's preeminent Jewish cultural center.

Twelve hours earlier, Peres got a hearty reception at the UN when delegates from more than 100 states turned out to hear him early in the morning, at the invitation of UN envoy Gad Yaa'cobi. Many delegates lingered after the Israeli entourage had gone, speaking warmly of the foreign minister.

That's a far cry from Peres's recent encounters on East 59th Street, headquarters of Jewish

organizational life. On his visit late last month, the general tenor of his meeting with the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations was, at best, correct.

These days, correctness often seems the most that Peres and many Israeli officials can expect from the organized community.

Just before Peres's appearance at the Y Tuesday night, a local Jewish journalist asked him if he was aware of the "hostility" of some American Jews toward

the Israeli government. "No, ma'am. I am aware of the great love," he said, his jaw set and his hands gripping a lectern. He recalled that thousands had yelled, "Mazel tov," on Sunday as Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, conferred an honorary degree on him.

Peres also could recall an evening at the end of his visit in April when he, along with President Bill Clinton, was among the elite paying tribute to philanthropist Edgar Bronfman. When Peres addressed Bronfman's friends, they too laughed at all the right moments.

But that was at the Waldorf, not 59th Street.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE LAW

Ministry of Health

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE LAW

came into force on January 1, 1995

Provision of Mental Health Services by Health Funds.

Starting June 1, 1995, mental health services are included among the comprehensive services for which every Israeli is eligible under the National Health Insurance Law. Every resident requiring psychiatric treatment will be able to receive it through his health fund, within the framework of the services listed below.

The mental health facilities recognized by the Ministry of Health will continue to be available through the health funds.

Psychiatric services provided:

- Hospitalization services.
 - Emergency and emergency room treatment.
 - Psychiatric hospital and outpatient treatment.
 - Consultations and treatment in general hospitals.
 - Hospitalization alternatives, such as sheltered housing, hostels etc.
- Ambulatory Mental Health Services
 - Diagnosis evaluation, consultation and psychotherapeutic treatment; crisis intervention; individual, family and group therapy; follow-up, support and maintenance, rehabilitation and house visits (a fee will be charged for these services according to Health Ministry regulations).
 - Services for special groups, such as special needs, therapeutic kindergartens, clubs, rehabilitation centers and employment.

For the time being, substance dependents will continue to be treated directly by the Health Ministry.

Regarding patients who have been hospitalized for more than a year, the Health Ministry will continue to be responsible for their treatment, through R.U.T. (Ravava Vetikva) and their insurance responsibility, in addition to their regular health fund membership rights.

'The other victim' generally remains nameless

Fred Goldman never forgets that O.J. Simpson is also accused of killing his son Ron, Tom Tugend reports from Los Angeles

THE forgotten man in the O.J. Simpson trial, which has already made instant celebrities of a limousine driver, a third-rate actor and a bevy of lawyers, is Ronald Lyle Goldman.

Nearly a year after his blood-soaked body, stabbed 22 times, was found next to that of Nicole Brown Simpson, Goldman's name is hardly mentioned. In the media, he is described as "the other victim," or as a waiter.

As one *Los Angeles Times* reporter noted, "From the beginning, Ron Goldman has not fit easily into his murder story. It's as though his presence was an afterthought, a guy who happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time."

But Goldman has not been forgotten by his father, Fred Goldman, who recently broke a long silence to protest "a murder trial that has turned into a circus," the *Los Angeles Times* reported.

Ron Goldman is also remembered by his father's fellow congregants at Temple Beth Haverim in suburban Agoura Hills, where Ron was called to the Torah several months before his death in honor of his stepfather's bar mitzva.

Rabbi Gary Johnson of the Conservative synagogue said that congregants have established a memorial fund in Ron Goldman's name.

Fred Goldman and his wife Patti belong to a 25-family *havura* (a small informal congregation) which has given a great deal of moral support and occasionally prepares meals for the Goldmans when they return home after a long day attending the trial.

ACCORDING to fellow employees at the chic restaurant where he worked as a waiter, Ron Goldman, 25, had gone to Nicole Simpson's home on the night of the murder to return a pair of glasses she had forgotten there.

A native of Chicago, Ron was raised in suburban Buffalo Grove, where he attended Hebrew school, celebrated his bar mitzva, worked as a camp counselor and volunteered to help disabled children. After a year at Illinois State University, he followed his father and stepmother to Los Angeles in 1987.

The handsome young man immediately took to the southern California life-style, working as a tennis coach and as an occasional model for Giorgio Armani clothes. He also appeared once on the Fox-network television show *Studs*, in which participants recount their adventures on blind dates.

He exercised at the beach and partied a lot, but shortly before his murder Goldman's thoughts seemed to have taken a more serious turn. He spoke hopefully of getting married and opening his own restaurant, according to Johnson.

The rabbi said Goldman's father and stepmother were particularly distressed by media reports that linked their son romantically with Nicole Simpson, and which dwelled on his alleged life in the fast lane.

"Ron's relationship with Miss Simpson was clearly a platonic one," Johnson told *The Jewish Journal*. "He was moving toward more serious commitments, and from adolescence to adulthood, when his life was tragically cut off."

Goldman's father and stepmother have been attending the trial regularly, with the father's anger rising steadily as defense lawyers try to paint O.J. Simpson as the victim of a police conspiracy.

"I'm mad as hell and I can't take it anymore," he recently told the *Los Angeles Times*. "This has become the 'O.J. case,' instead of the Goldman-Brown murder case."

Goldman filed a wrongful-death civil lawsuit on May 5 against Simpson, contending that



Ron Goldman: A guy who happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. (Reuters)

the former football star "brutally murdered" his son.

The complaint does not name an amount of damages sought,

but says that the "imposition of substantial punitive and [compensatory] damages will in this case be both justified and necessary to send out a message... that such vicious and outrageous savagery inflicted by one human being upon another shall be met

The forgotten man is remembered

RONALD Goldman's relatives and friends came to his gravesite for a memorial service nearly a year after he was slain.

For his 14-year-old stepdaughter, Lauren, time had done little to ease the pain. "I feel worse," she said Sunday. "It's not going to get any easier. It's going to be a lifetime of pain."

"Missing you now, loving you always," reads the inscription on Goldman's granite plaque, unveiled at the memorial service in Westlake Village, California.

Goldman, 25, and O.J. Simpson's ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson were slashed to death last June 12. Among the roughly 150 people invited to the graveside dedication ceremony were Simpson's prosecutors, Marcia Clark and William Hodgman.

Many of the other graves at Valley Oaks Memorial Park, about 80 km. northwest of Los Angeles, were decorated with American flags for veterans on Memorial Day.

Goldman's grave had one too, and his sister Kim thought that was fitting.

"You risked your life and died trying to defend a friend," she said.

Fred Goldman remembered his son's day-old baby picture.

"That first photo was special for all the obvious reasons, but what was unique about Ron's photo was that he had a smile on his face immediately. It will be that smile that I will remember forever," he said, breaking down in tears.

(Annie Shoeman/Associated Press)

with the severest of civil penalties."

Whether Simpson is convicted of criminal charges or not, he can still face civil damages. Criminal cases require that the defendant be guilty "beyond a reasonable doubt"; the standard for a civil lawsuit is that a preponderance of the evidence favor one side or the other.

One target of Fred Goldman's ire is Robert L. Shapiro, whose defense team includes a semi-celebrity attorney - Harvard law professor, author and outspoken Jewish activist Alan Dershowitz.

Although Shapiro is now taking something of a backseat to his black colleague Johnnie Cochran, he remains a key player in the Simpson defense strategy.

Shapiro, 53, was born in Plainfield, New Jersey, where his father worked in a shirt factory and his mother was a department-store clerk.

Although he has defended celebrities before, this is clearly the biggest case of his career. Shapiro can be relentless, but he is generally described by colleagues as polite and low key, a man who eschews confrontational courtroom histrionics and displays a keen sensitivity for human relations.

The latter trait was apparent at Shapiro's son's recent bar mitzva, where the guests included Los Angeles County District Attorney Gil Garcetti, whose staff is trying to convict Simpson.

CARRYING THE case for the state, and not at all awed by the opposing million-dollar team, is Deputy District Attorney Marcia Clark, whose dislike of Shapiro becomes more obvious as the trial drags on, as does his dislike of her.

Clark has successfully shielded her private life from the American media, but the vacuum has been filled partially by the Israeli press and the local Hebrew-language paper, *Shalom L.A.*, which is published twice weekly.

The media's main source has been Clara Horowitz, Clark's former mother-in-law, who lives in Tel Aviv and is hardly an unbiased observer.

According to Horowitz, Clark was raised by strictly Orthodox parents who had emigrated from Israel to California, where Marcia was born in 1953 in Berkeley. As a student at the University

of California, Los Angeles, the Hebrew-speaking Marcia met Gaby Horowitz, who made a handsome living in Hollywood and fashionable resorts as an international backgammon champion. They were married in 1976.

The sensationalist tabloid *National Enquirer* scored a coup of sorts in its February 14 issue, after it dispatched a team to Tel Aviv and obtained the Horowitzes' family photo album.

The result was a cover teaser promising a topless Marcia on the inside. Indeed, the two-page spread features Gaby and Marcia topless hugging each other on a St. Tropez beach in 1979. In an unusual display of coyness, the paper blacked out Marcia's undraped torso with a rectangular "CENSORED" sign.

According to the *Enquirer* story, the young couple "regularly visited L.A. backgammon clubs, where Gaby raked in big bucks playing against stars like John Wayne, Lucille Ball - and O.J. Simpson."

Clara Horowitz is quoted as saying that "Gaby put Marcia through law school, and also paid to have her nose fixed.... The surgery cost him a lot of money." She graduated from the Southwestern University School of Law in Los Angeles.

Clara Horowitz has had to contend with the tragedy of her son Gaby since 1989, when a friend of his, checking out Gaby's gun collection, accidentally shot him in the head. Gaby Horowitz, now 48, is brain damaged and paralyzed.

Shalom L.A., citing Israeli sources, also quotes Clara Horowitz as saying that "a few days after Marcia took the bar examination, she disappeared leaving a note claiming incompatibility." There has been no contact between Gaby Horowitz and Marcia Clark since, according to *Shalom L.A.*

Clark is now embroiled in a dispute with her second husband, Gordon Clark, a 36-year-old computer engineer.

The two have been separated for the past year and are in the midst of divorce proceedings. Gordon Clark is seeking custody of their two sons, ages three and five, on the grounds that the boys' mother is so deeply immersed in the O.J. Simpson case that she cannot properly care for their children.

A match made in Moscow with a little help from Israel

GRAPEVINE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

FIRST there was the courtship in Moscow; then there was a three weeks' honeymoon all over Israel, followed by a religious wedding in Jerusalem; and soon there will be a civil wedding in Moscow. The happy bride and groom this week were Olga Marcus and Michael Farberman, who were brought to Israel by the World Union of Progressive Judaism, and united in wedlock by Rabbi Maya Leibovich, director of the WUPJ's Institute of Jewish Studies in the CIS. The first sabra female to be ordained a rabbi, Leibovich serves a congregation in Mevasseret Zion. Olga from Kiev and Michael from Vitebsk met at the WUPJ Institute in Moscow; and once they decided to get married were determined to do so not only in Jerusalem, but on Jerusalem Day. The bride was attended by her father; and the groom, by an aunt.

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY Israel Alumni gave standing ovations to Bar-Ilan University chancellor Rabbi Emanuel Rackman and Rothschild Foundation director Moshe Berlin at YU's seventh annual awards dinner at the Jerusalem Renaissance Hotel. "Many of us were in Rackman's Shaarei Tefila congregation in Far Rockaway, New York, and were influenced by him to immigrate in 1968/69," said David Zwieler, adding that Rackman could personally account for at least 50 people in the room. "He has a lot of grandchildren here," chimed in Fred Horowitz, who with his

wife, Stern College YU graduate Stella (nee Novik), has five sabra children and 23 grandchildren of his own. A former president of both the New York Board of Rabbis and the Rabbinical Council of America, Rackman observed that the impact YU had on Jewish life in America could not be paralleled here by any Israeli university.

THE INVITATION for the gala opening of the prestigious Teddy Hall of the Jerusalem International Convention Center (Binayeh Ha'uma) stipulated evening dress. But most of the 800-plus guests, including guest of honor Teddy Kollek, after whom the facility was named, and the joint hosts, acting Jewish Agency chairman Avraham Burg and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, ignored the request. Only the trumpeters came in tuxedos.

Kollek carried a tie in his breast pocket, just in case, he might have to knot it under his collar; but so many of the male guests arrived in sports shirts, without either tie or jacket, that there was no need for him to bother. Kollek is frequently introduced as the builder of Jerusalem, but Tourism Minister Uri Baran went one better when he said the Jewish people don't have a greater builder than Kollek. Burg, who, in his tribute to Kollek, listed other people associated with developing Binayeh Ha'uma from a relatively small facility to a sprawling multipurpose complex, did not forget to give credit to his predecessor, Simcha Dinitz, whose credit-card peccadilloes clouded the many positive achievements of his career.



Roj Ben Yosef: Once involved in the arts, always involved in the arts.

JUST AS Palestinian economist Hisham Awartani rose to speak at the 50th anniversary of the UN seminar at the Hebrew University, Mount Scopus, the call of a muezzin filtered through the window. If nothing else, it was a sign of solidarity.

IF YOU have a sidewalk party, you're bound to get gatecrashers. This is what Jerusalem fishermen Rachel and Eliezer Fuchs of Daglatesset were counting on when they invited some 40 of their regular clients to a lecture-demonstration and tasting of salmon in its many forms. Since their premises are far too small to hold such a crowd, they set up chairs theater-style on the sidewalk outside - and every kibitzer in the area brought his wife and his mother. Invitees included writer Mary Stewart Krosney;

dentist Amram Miller and his wife Jacqueline; and social worker Tzippi Zaleberg. English teacher Rachel Selby, who passes the shop each day, but had never been tempted to go inside, plans to change her shopping habits. The affair was so successful the Fuchs plan to do it again.

THOSE JERUSALEM Great Synagogue congregants who are still under the illusion that politics and religion don't mix, were amazed at the end of last Saturday's pre-Jerusalem Day service when vice president Zoli Jaffe announced from the pulpit that anyone who had not yet signed a petition and received an identifying badge in Charles Weinberg's "I am a Jerusalemite" campaign could do so the following day. Jaffe permitted himself some more obviously anti-government statements than those implied earlier in the morning in the sermon delivered by Rabbi Zalman Druk. Jerusalem Day, however, was not marked by a kiddush. Unlike both the Conservative Synagogue and the Sheraton Plaza hotel across the road, the Great Synagogue does not have a regular Shabbat kiddush, and the 28th Jerusalem Day was no exception. There was no excuse for turning away people who came the following day in response to an advertised Jerusalem Day party. Explaining that it was a private function, a guard at the door denied entry to anyone who came without a printed invitation.

ETHIOPIAN Ambassador Konigit Sinegorgie hosted a reception at her Herzliya home to mark the first anniversary of her country's transition to democracy. Absorp-



Davis Rothberg: School alumnus returns to HU as a staff member. (Werner Braun)

tion Minister Yair Tzaban, through force of circumstance, had to linger in the area longer than he intended. When Tzaban emerged into the street, neither his official car nor his driver were anywhere in sight.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES in the Foreign Ministry wives' association have thrust the mantle of responsibility on Naomi Manor, wife of Uzi Manor, Israel's former ambassador to Thailand. A new category in the organization's ranks is that of representative of wives remaining in Israel while their husbands serve abroad. The numbers are increasing as more women refuse to give up successful careers to work as unpaid servants for the Foreign Ministry. Current representative in the new executive is Meira Shamir, whose husband Oded Shamir is working as a vice consul in Marseilles.

THE HEBREW University's Rothberg School for Overseas Students was proud recently when one of its alumni returned to Israel in the capacity of US

ambassador. As a young Australian student, British-born Martin Indyk studied at the school's summer ulpan in 1973. Another British-born alumnus, Jonathan Davis, 45, who grew up in the US and came to the school in 1969, is the new HU director of development and public relations. Davis, whose year at HU convinced him that Israel was the place to be, stayed on to serve in an elite paratroop commando unit in the IDF, and subsequently in numerous aliyah positions in the Jewish Agency, including stints as aliyah emissary in Boston and Cape Town.

INDYK has reservations about moving the US Embassy to Jerusalem, but his conservative approach to the capital does not extend to the McDonald's corporation. Last Sunday he officially opened the fast-food chain's first Jerusalem outlet, and then proceeded to devour a Big Mac.

ONCE A celebrated fashion designer with a strong tendency towards ethnicity, Roj Ben Yosef cannot divorce himself from the creative arts. Currently chairperson of the Tel Aviv Friends of the Bezalel Academy of Arts, Ben Yosef last Friday announced scholarship grants at an art education seminar, which was the Friends' last event for the season.

Serving cultural, social and welfare interests, the brunch meeting at Tel Aviv's Dan Hotel attracted a much larger attendance than expected. Ruth Federman, who is also a member of the Friends and the wife of Samuel Federman, one of the Dan chain owners, had no trouble in quickly organizing extra chairs.

AFTER FORSAKING stage and screen for a seat in parliament, prize-winning actress Glenda Jackson decided that politics provided more interesting roles. Jackson was in Israel this week as a member of a British Labor del-

egation, in which capacity she was introduced to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who shared his visions of peace with the visiting parliamentarians. Later, they were privy to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's perception of peace.

ZANY BLONDE Hollywood star Goldie Hawn plans to be in Israel next year with husband Kurt Russell. Hawn will be fundraising for Tel Aviv's Cinematheque, which will be expanded upwards and outwards as a result of her efforts.

RUSSELL IS one of the male leads in *Star Gate*, which premieres in Israel next week. Also featured is actress Miri Avital, who is flying home from Hollywood via Cannes to be a member of the first-night audience. On the home front, Avital has received widespread recognition for her provocative promotion of ice cream. Her seditious punline - "Do you want a bite, Mickey?" - has found its place in the local jargon.

IT'S ALL in the family. Hagai Ben-Artzi, walking political barometer for Likud leader Bibi Netanyahu, is taking a lot of flak these days. The smiling and softly spoken Ben-Artzi, who happens to be Bibi's brother-in-law, is the courier for messages from members of the public unable to deliver directly to Bibi himself. Some messages are strongly worded criticisms, which Ben-Artzi valiantly withstands by quoting popularity polls indicating Bibi's comfortable lead over Rabin. This doesn't always work. Bibi Ben-Artzi has been on the receiving end of right-wing disaffection with Bibi's performance. "He's castrating the nation," an elderly leonine man once charged this week. Ben-Artzi maintained his usual polite demeanor, while Stanley Gold, continuing to berate "your brother-in-law," presented his credentials. "You can tell him Bibi comes from the man who spent long years in prison for evading Bernadotte," he declared.

IMPERSONATORS WHO have perfected the measured tone of Prime Minister Rabin will soon change their act. Interviewed by ITV's Yisrael Segal on video from the Golan, Rabin vowed that, when he wants to, he can speak very quickly - so quickly in fact, that Segal could barely get a word in edgewise.

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סדאמ חסא

Expropriations give bashers golden opportunity

EYE ON THE MEDIA

DANNY BEN-MOSHE and DAVID BAR-ILLAN

THE government's decision to expropriate 535 dunams (130 acres) of land in Jerusalem afforded the media an Israel-bashing field day.

In an AEP story by Barry Parker published on May 9, the image of the downtrodden Palestinian farmer, who tilled the land for centuries and is now being booted out to make way for Jews, returned with a vengeance.

It tells the tale of the Jaddalah family, who owned 200 dunams when the State of Israel was declared. The Israelis "confiscated" most of it, Dr. Jaddalah claims, leaving the family with 30 dunams. According to AFP, Jaddalah "traces his ancestors back 450 years in the region."

The region is, of course, a big place, and the original Jaddalahs may have come from Sudan, or perhaps the Euphrates area. But it wasn't the area where his land is now. The first settlement outside the Walled City, Yemin Moshe, was established at the end of the 19th century.

On a journey through the Jaddalahs' vine leaves, we learn that the good doctor is a "senior figure" in the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. That he therefore opposes Israel's existence, in Tel Aviv no less than Jerusalem, is ignored, as is his opposition to the very peace process

and the journalist claim the Israeli expropriation is destroying.

"We have heard nothing about compensation," Jaddalah complains. Once again we witness flawed journalistic practice, for had Parker checked, he would have learned that compensation was offered and refused. But, as always, the word of PLO activists is gospel and needs no corroboration.

To make the propagandistic nature of the story complete, the "exclusively for Jews" housing developments which overlook the city are described as being on "confiscated land." What is not mentioned is that most of this land was state land, not privately owned, and that no land anywhere has been "confiscated," that is, seized without compensation. In all cases of expropriation from private owners, compensation has been offered.

Parker also provides a motive for all these "confiscations." Across to the West, hundreds of Ethiopian and Russian Jews have been housed temporarily in caravans on Arab land. This fits in nicely with the bottom line: The bad Jews come from outside and kick out the good Arabs who have been there for centuries.

No one ever mentions that, somehow, despite all these con-

fiscations, the Arab population of Jerusalem has more than doubled since 1967; that it has grown at a faster pace than the Jewish population; and that the improvements in its standard of living have been dramatic.

Writing in Britain's *Independent*, Patrick Cockburn, noting the "religious significance" of Jerusalem to Arab states, explains that "when he first received the Koran, the prophet Mohammed prayed towards Jerusalem, not Mecca."

This may have offered a timely opportunity to mention that Jerusalem is the most holy city for Jews, that it was the sovereign Jewish capital for a thousand years before the destruction of the Second Temple and again for the past 46 years, and that it has never been the capital of any other state. But the expropriation issue offered too irresistible an opportunity for the selective editing of history.

Danny Ben-Moshe

TRUE BELIEVERS

In the May 5 column I criticized *Ha'aretz* reporter Rubik Rosenthal for a cover-up. He deliberately failed to report an Ara-

fat harangue about Israelis collaborating in the Beit Lid massacre. His *Ha'aretz* colleague Gideon Levy has no such compunctions. Writing in the paper's magazine on April 28, Levy quotes Arafat at length:

"I have noticed that every time I reached an agreement with Rabin, a horrible terrorist strike came down. After the first time I thought it was a coincidence; after the second I thought it was a coincidence. But after the third it could no longer be a coincidence. Especially not after Beit Lid. I ordered our security people to investigate the Beit Lid incident and I discovered that the two lads who carried out the strike spent the previous night in Dahanya [a village of collaborators near Rafiah on the Egyptian border - G.L.]

"No Palestinian can go there... even the joint patrols can't go there. They are afraid. So how did these two boys get there at night, changed into fake IDF uniforms, and had a car take them to Beit Lid? At night in Dahanya or before they also obtained the explosives. I have a right to ask how the car passed six

or seven, okay - maybe only five or even three - IDF roadblocks from Dahanya to Beit Lid? How is it that two terrorists with fake uniforms and a car loaded with explosives are not afraid to be stopped at roadblocks?"

"I raised all these questions in the Cairo summit, with Rabin, Mubarak and Hussein. Rabin raged. He said, 'No, no, no,' and left the room. Mubarak brought him back. I told him, 'Let's assume I'm a liar. Let's appoint a joint inquiry commission, an Israeli-Palestinian-Egyptian-Jordanian commission.' He said, 'No, we should resolve it between us.'

"In the next meeting with him, at Erez, I brought it up again. I proposed a joint Israeli-Palestinian commission. He didn't respond. Suddenly he started speaking Hebrew, which unfortunately I don't understand. But when he noticed that one of my colleagues was translating his words, he asked one of his generals to answer me... I'm telling you all this frankly - there are some unusual things about this story. Who took the two terrorists from Dahanya to Beit Lid?" Levy continues: "At this point

one of his advisers whispers in Arafat's ear and Arafat hastens to add: 'I'm not saying that it's Rabin or the army or the government. I'm saying that there are certain elements on both sides that want to destroy the peace process.'"

The first reaction to this tale is one of grudging admiration for Rabin. Anyone who can listen to such rantings without calling for the men in white coats has more patience than the Almighty.

But what is most striking about Levy's verbatim record of this Arafat harangue is that he obviously believes it. Like the Western true believers of the Communist era, who swallowed the most outlandish Moscow fabrications with the credulousness of four-year-olds, Levy seems to feel there is merit in Arafat's sick disinformation fantasy. The whole article is a paean, an awe-struck description of a heartwarming meeting with "the oldest and most knowledgeable" as Arafat modestly describes himself.

Nor is Levy alone in this credulousness. The most devoted Arafat groupie of them all, journalist and "peace bloc" leader Uri Avnery, told the Jerusalem local weekly *Kol Ha'ir* two weeks ago that he has no doubt that Abu Nidal, one of the world's most notorious terrorists, who was re-

sponsible for shooting Israel's ambassador to London Shlomo Argov in 1982, was a Mossad operative.

"What is certain is that Abu Nidal never acted against Israel, except in a small number of incidents which fitted precisely Israel's needs. The attempt on Argov was not only on the most convenient day, but at the most propitious moment for Israel," Avnery said, in what must be the first time in history that a prominent Israeli has accused the Mossad of masterminding the shooting of an Israeli diplomat.

But former deputy chief of the Romanian KGB Ion Pacepa, the highest-ranking communist security official to defect to the West, asserts that Abu Nidal is an Arafat agent who has served as an executioner of PLO leaders. Arafat wants out of the way, (Abu Nidal's operatives assassinated the PLO's Issam Sartawi and Abu Iyad.) Since his defection in 1978, Pacepa's revelations have proved stunningly accurate.

Carrying Avnery's contention to its logical conclusion, Arafat must be working for the Mossad as Abu Nidal's "handler." And Avnery, who does Arafat's bidding with quasi-religious devotion, is therefore... The mind boggles.

David Bar-Ilan

Torah is vague about Sinai, but clear about Jerusalem

IT is strange that of all the festivals the Torah ordains, Shavuot alone - celebrated as the anniversary of the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, which marks the birth of the Jewish people as the unique faith/people we are - is given no specific date in the Torah.

The Torah only tells us that at a vaguely specified time during Pessah, "from the day after the shabbat... there shall be seven full weeks. Till the day after the seventh shabbat you shall count fifty days" (Leviticus 23:15-16).

This vague formulation was in talmudic times the subject of a dispute between Jewish sectarians and the Sages. The Sadducees maintained that "shabbat" in this passage is a proper noun referring to the weekly seventh-day Shabbat day.

According to this understanding, accepted by the Karaites and Samaritans, the *omer* count begins the first Sunday after the first Shabbat of Pessah, so that, regardless of the date, Shavuot always falls on Sunday seven weeks later (as it happens to fall this year, the day after tomorrow).

The Sages' view, which prevails in what Prof. George Foot Moore called "normative Judaism," was that this "shabbat" is the generic for "day of rest," referring to the first day of Pessah. Accordingly, the count begins the second day of Pessah - rather, the night before - and Shavuot always falls on Sivan 6.

No less strange is that the Torah doesn't name this 50th day as the day of the Mount Sinai event. Again it is the talmudic Sages who ruled that the date is Sivan 6, after a discussion in which one of them maintained that it happened on Sivan 7 (*Shabbat* 66b, *Pessahim* 68b).

Equally strange is that the Jewish sources preserve no tradition about the location of that mountain called "Sinai" at which this seminal event took place.

Maybe not strange at all. Perhaps this is an early expression of Judaism's rejection of the concept of "holy places," except for the Holy of Holies in the Temple in Jerusalem.

An outstanding expression is what the Torah tells us about Moses' burial place somewhere in the land of Moab "facing Beit Peor," in a location "no one

A VIEW FROM NOV. MOSHE KOHN

knows... to this day" (Deuteronomy 34:6).

IF THE Tanach doesn't tell us exactly when and where the Torah was given to Man, it and the Talmud and Midrash clearly tell us, many times, from where its message is to be broadcast and its light to be radiated.

The best-known statement, chanted every time the Torah is to be removed from the Ark during the synagogue service, is: "For out of Zion shall come forth the Torah, and the word of God from Jerusalem" (Isaiah 2:1, Micah 4:2).

These are just two of the 821 times that Jerusalem and Zion (usually synonymous with Jerusalem) appear in the Tanach - Jerusalem 667 times, and Zion 154.

In the New Testament Jerusalem appears 154 times and Zion seven. This frequency is only natural, considering that the protagonist and most of the other personae were Jews, and that some of the central events, including the culminating event, took place in Jerusalem/Zion.

The Koran, on the other hand, does not even mention or clearly hint at Jerusalem. Strange, considering that Moslems attach to Jerusalem sanctity equal almost to that of Mecca and Medina. On which sacred principle, then, do Arab and some Moslem spokespersons sanctimoniously call upon the name of Jerusalem as they threaten, and others as they perpetrate, murderous anti-Jewish violence?

Until the 10th century Moslems called Jerusalem "Bilal." That is the Arabic corruption of "Aelia [Capitolina]," which is the name the Roman emperor Hadrian Publius Aelius gave it.

Hadrian renamed the city after himself and the Roman god Jupiter Capitolinus after crushing the Bar Kochba Revolt in 135 CE. He razed Jerusalem, installed a shrine to Jupiter on the ruins of the Holy of Holies, and in general strove to erase from Jerusalem every Jewish vestige.

(Except for the idolatrous touch, the Jordanians under kings Abdullah and Hussein

treated Jerusalem similarly between 1948 and 1967.)

From the 10th century on, the Moslems called the city by names of Jewish origin: *Bel al Makdis*, Arabic for the Hebrew name of the Temple, *Bel Hamikdash*; House of the Sanctuary; *Al Kuds*, Arabic for [the] Holiness; sometimes just *Urshlim*, the Arabic form of the Hebrew *Yerushalayim*; and even *Siyun*, Arabic for the Hebrew *Tziyon*.

(Based on *Whose Jerusalem?* by Eliyahu Tal, Jerusalem/Tel Aviv, 1994; a lecture by Jerusalem archaeologist-historian-geographer Prof. Menashe Harel; and Abraham Even-Shoshan's *Tanach Concordance*.)

IT IS instructive to note how a Christian and a Moslem monarch once expressed themselves regarding this city over whose "sanctity" representatives of both faiths have initiated the shedding of so much blood, and spokespersons of both perpetrated so much verbal violence.

On February 18, 1229, the Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II of the House of Hohenstaufen, who led the Sixth Crusade, concluded a treaty with the Egyptian Sultan al-Kamil that gave him Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Lod and several other places in Eretz Yisrael and beyond, and 10 years of peace. Pope Gregory IX denounced Frederick for thus acquiring Jerusalem, saying that Moslems are to be fought, not negotiated with.

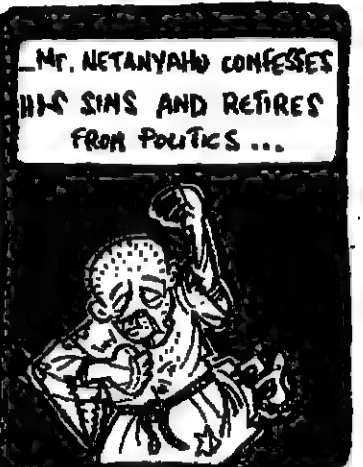
Frederick, who had earlier crowned himself King of Jerusalem, said: "If I did not fear to lose my prestige in the eyes of the Franks, I should not have sought to impose all this on the Sultan."

Al-Kamil for his part said: "I have decided nothing but churches and houses in ruins."

In July 1294 an army of Khwarezmian Turks in Egyptian pay conquered Jerusalem, and the following year Egypt's Sultan Ayub conquered most of what had been "the Latin [Crusader] Kingdom of Jerusalem" and even Damascus.

(See Dr. Gershon Mamlak's "Jerusalem - City of Three Religions?" in *Midstream*, August/September 1980, and *Encyclopedia Briannica*, 1972 edition.)

SRULIK



Shavuot: A holiday that stands for change

FOUR questions for Shavuot: Why the custom of eating dairy products when all other festivals are distinguished by the eating of meat? Second, what is the real significance of reading the Book of Ruth? Third, why do we stand when the Torah reader chants the Ten Commandments? And fourth, why do we abandon the regular cantillation for the Ten Commandments, and choose a different tradition on Shavuot?

To begin with the last question: In a printed edition of the Torah, every word is accompanied by a sign as to how it ought to be chanted. But the sections where the Ten Commandments appear are more complicated. Besides the usual notes beneath the words (called the "lower notes," or *ta'am taktin*), there is a tradition of "higher notes," or (*ta'am elyon*) often printed above the words.

The most obvious difference between the two systems of cantillation is that the regular tradition divides the text into verses of fairly equal length, whereas the less usual "higher-note" tradition makes the division in terms of the commandments. For example, in the former tradition the subject of Sabbath is four verses, while in the latter it is only one verse.

Conversely, the later commandments - Thou shalt not murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, and Thou shalt not bear false witness against your neighbor - are four separate verses in the latter system, even though in the more usual reading they appear as one verse.

On Shavuot, the accepted custom is to read the *ta'am elyon* because the division of the text according to commandments reaffirms the immediate link to the revelation at Sinai. The trope above the words also symbolizes the fact that we received our Torah from the Almighty above.

This symbolism also provides an answer to question number three - why we stand during the reading of the Ten Commandments. Most congregations stand despite Maimonides' stipulation that standing for one particular portion of the Torah may appear to play down the importance and divine origin of the other portions. Just as we stood on Sinai during the

SHABBAT SHALOM SHLOMO RUSKIN

revelation, so too we stand on Shavuot when the Ten Commandments are read.

ON A most fundamental level, the revelation at Sinai reminds us how much God believes in us, and in our capacity to grow, change and develop. When we received the Torah, we'd only just got out of Egypt, having descended to the 49th degree of impurity (says the Midrash). And apparently this state of mind hadn't entirely left us, because in a short time we would be worshipping a golden calf.

Despite this, God believed in us. The proof is that He revealed the Torah to us. Implicit in revelation is the belief in our potential.

This brings us to why we read the Book of Ruth on Shavuot. Of course, Shavuot commemorates the day we received the Torah; and as a convert Ruth accepted the Torah. But this is only part of the story.

If there is one person's life in the Bible which addresses itself to the possibility of change, it is the life of Ruth. After all, to remind ourselves where Ruth comes from, we have only to turn to the passage in which God commands Moses: "An Ammonite or a Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of the Lord... because they did not meet you with bread and with water when you were on the way out of Egypt..." (Deut. 23:4-5)

Not only does Ruth join the "congregation of the Lord," but her experience teaches the sages that the verse in Deuteronomy must be referring to a Moabite male; apparently a Moabite female, namely Ruth, could enter the Jewish congregation. Such was Ruth's merit that she was a direct ancestor of King David and therefore also the ancestor of the Messiah. Hers was not simply an exterior conversion but a metamorphosis at the core of her being.

When Ruth declares to Naomi: "...where you go I shall go, and where you lodge, I shall lodge, your people shall be my people, and

your God my God, where you die, I will die, and there will I be buried..." (Ruth 1:16), she is cataloging the details of total transformation. It's a change of belief, nationality, lifestyle and theology.

But it goes even deeper. The Torah tells us that Moabites cannot enter the congregation because they were callous to the plight of the Israelites leaving Egypt, refusing to share bread and water. Such cruelty was sufficient to put their descendants beyond the possibility of conversion.

As a Moabite, Ruth carries her people's history within her. But whereas her ancestors were cold-hearted, she is the epitome of loving-kindness and warmth. The Moabites couldn't care less about these wandering Jews, and now Ruth leaves her own home to wander with Naomi. Her ancestors wouldn't even give the Israelites bread and water, but Ruth assumes the responsibility of feeding her mother-in-law Naomi.

The changes in Ruth's life were so dramatic that they not only clarify our understanding of a verse in Deuteronomy, but also permanently fix in our minds that Shavuot is related to the possibility of total change. Ruth becomes the model for us all, her experience telling us that to be a Jew means to be a person who struggles to change.

The question of eating dairy on Shavuot is directly related to this ability to change. Milk comes from the cow, the animal that is the quintessence of meat. This teaches us that the product can be radically different from the source, that individuals can transcend their environment.

According to Jewish tradition, it is through his descendant Ruth that Lot, nephew and adopted son of Abraham, returns to his ancestral faith and mission.

Even if we sometimes lose hope in our own ability to change, Shavuot is a reminder that God never loses hope in us!

Shabbat Shalom and Hag Sameach

We regret that last week we erroneously repeated the Shabbat Shalom column of the previous week.

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High-stake bidding

BRIDGE

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

East dealer
North-South vulnerable

North
(Ekeblad)
♠ J42
♥ Q
♦ QJ83
♣ AK1085

West
(Schwartz)
♠ 8753
♥ J962
♦ K2
♣ Q63

East
(Weichsel)
♠ AO
♥ AK108743
♦ 5
♣ 974

South
(Rodwell)
♠ K1096
♥ 5
♦ A109764
♣ J2

Schwartz Ekeblad Weichsel Rodwell
West North East South
2♣ double 4♥ pass
pass pass double (all pass)

THE Cavendish Invitational Pairs, held in New York City last month, had the largest betting pool in the history of the game.

The night before the event, 40 pairs were auctioned off to the highest bidders, who were betting on the players' final position. The highest-priced pair, Bob Hamman and Bob Wolff of Dallas, was sold for \$28,000, while recent winners of the European Open Pairs, Gawrys and Lasocki of Poland, went for \$27,000. With 40 strong pairs in the field, the total pool was almost half a million dollars.

The winners of the event were Paul Soloway of Seattle, and Harry Tudor of Miami. The first prize of \$11,700 was divided between the lucky bettors who had a piece of them.

This event is an excellent arena for bridge pros who don't want to risk the costs of entry and auction pool. Instead, they are sponsored by someone who can afford these luxuries and given, as their reward, a "piece of the action."

The tournament is quite a grueling affair, with each pair required to play three deals against the other 39 pairs, with every deal compared to the results at each of the other 19 tables. This year the scores were very close, and it was not until the last three boards were finished that the winners were decided.

GOING INTO the last round.

Soloway and Tudor were lying second, a few points behind Richie Schwartz and Peter Weichsel of New York. Weichsel is also a professional bridge player, and Schwartz is a top-notch handicapper at American racetracks. His nickname, "The Horse," was given to him fondly one day at the bridge club, when he was simultaneously cashing his ninth winner in a three-notrump contract while listening on the radio to his long shot cross the finish line in the Kentucky Derby.

Unfortunately for The Horse, his long shots do not always prevail. The deal in today's column was the one that knocked him out of the saddle.

After Weichsel (East) opened the bidding with one heart, The Horse (West) raised to two hearts and North, Sheila Ekeblad, of Providence, Rhode Island, doubled for takeout. Weichsel jumped to four hearts and Eric Rodwell of Illinois bid four spades.

When this was passed around to Weichsel, he judged spectacularly well to double. Most players in the same position pushed on to five hearts, which could not be made. The contract of four spades by South had very little chance.

After a heart lead from West, the best defense is to continue hearts. When a second round of hearts is ruffed in dummy, a trump is led and East must play his queen.

South wins the king of spades, but cannot continue trumps without being shortened by another round of hearts.

At this point, South is in big trouble and will probably end down two. But The Horse did not lead his partner's heart suit. Instead, his opening lead was the king of diamonds, a devastating blow. He was hoping that his partner held the ace of diamonds and that he could get a third round ruff.

But when the king of diamonds lost to the ace and established the diamond suit, The Horse knew he had made a grave error.

Rodwell was able to reach the North hand with the ace of clubs and lead spades through East, taking 11 tricks, one more than he needed for his contract. This meant a big loss for Weichsel and Schwartz, and Soloway and Tudor got their noses out in front at the finish line.



Though the hyena preys on other species, it's deemed worthy of protection here. (Werner Braun)

'Varmint' protection

A recent letter from a reader in the US questioned the space this column gives to "varmint."

The Oxford Dictionary defines a varmint as any bird or animal that damages crops or game. The definition, which includes examples such as squirrels, foxes, badgers and owls, is repeated in American dictionaries.

But here we have no such category. True, we describe a few birds and animals as *mezikim* (pests), but they attack crops only. Perhaps this is because hunting has never really been a part of the national consciousness, and the idea of classifying an animal as a "varmint" to be

NATURE
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

ruthlessly killed because it preys on other species is foreign to us.

From the earliest days of statehood, Israel has devoted time, money and effort to the preservation of what remains of our natural wildlife heritage. The impetus for legislation has been far more zoologically and environmentally orientated than in countries whose laws have been determined by farmers and sportsmen.

Most of the animals called varmints in Europe and North

America, animals and birds that were, until a few years ago, exterminated on sight, are protected species here. Although they damage crops, this applies to gazelles, ibex, wild boar, foxes, jackals, wolves, hyenas, leopards, porcupines, polecats, martens, badgers, hyraxes, mole rats, owls, eagles and a number of other animals.

It may well be that the traditional European and North American view of available game as the landowner's property gave rise to the concept of "varmint." Whatever the reason, we are fortunate that this is one Western idea that never took root in this country.

World champ No. 4

CHESS

NICK KOPALOFF

ALIK Gershon is 15 years old. Born in Ukraine, he immigrated 4½ years ago. He's a regular teenager who goes to school, kicks a ball around and sometimes annoys his parents.

But Gershon is also the world chess champion. In last year's under-14 world-chess championships held in Hungary, he overcame the other 73 hopefuls and brought the crown to his Herzliya home.

The fact that his name is not instantly recognizable is perhaps indicative of the state of chess here. Over the years, this country has boasted four junior world-chess champions — more than in all of this country's other sports put together. In other nations, champs representing their country's most successful sport might be hailed as national celebrities.

"Chess has always suffered in Israel due to a lack of media coverage and a lack of funding," Gershon says. "With a shift in emphasis we could even be the No. 2 chess power in the world behind Russia," he says.

He is now coached by grand master Alon Greenfield and, although there has been a marginal decline in his game in recent months due to what he calls "a drop in tension over the board," he is now picking up the pieces and continuing in his quest to be a professional chess player.

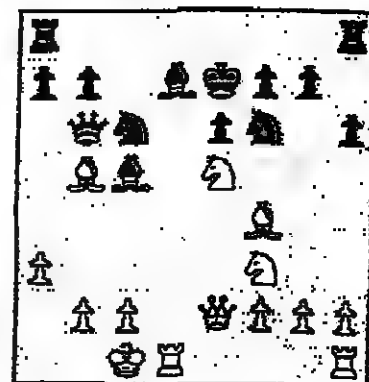
To keep all his options open, however, Gershon makes a point of studying hard in school, aware of the inability of other young Israeli world champions to live up to their early promise.

Gershon's relentlessly aggressive playing style is reflected in his choice of openings.

Gershon, A — Karp, M.
Tel Aviv 1994

Caro Kann Defense
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5; The Caro Kann is a favorite of former world champion Anatoly Karpov. It is not known for its sharpness, but it gives Black a very solid position. White must be on his toes with active play to retain an initiative, as Gershon ably demonstrates.

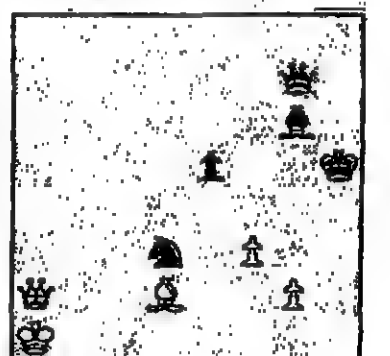
3.Nd2 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7 5.Bc4 Ng6 6.Ng5 e6 7.Qe2 Nb6 8.Bd3 b6 9.Ng3 c5 10.dxc5 Bxc5 11.Bd2 Qc7 12.0-0 Nb5 13.Ne5 Nb4 14.Bb5+ Kc7 15.a3 Nc6 16.Bd4 Qb6 17.Ng3 Bb7



18.Nxd7; the start of a cunning plan. The novice would be worried about Black's threatening bishop and White's hanging f pawn. Gershon actually forces black to capture.

18...Nxd7 19.b4 Bxd2 20.Rd2 Nd4 21.Nxd4 Bxd4 22.Bxd7 Rhd8 23.Bd4 g5 24.Be5 Be3 25.Rhd1 Rxd2 26.Rxd2 Rd8 27.Bc3 Bxd2+ 28.Bxd2 Qd4 29.c3 Qg1+ 30.Kb2 Qxh2 31.Be3 b6 32.Bd4 Rd5 33.Bc6 Rd6 34.Be5 Qg1 35.Bxd6 Kxd6 36.Bf3 f5 37.Qd3+ Ke5 38.Qd7 g4 39.Ba8 a6 40.Qg7+ Kd6 41.Qxh6 Qd2+ 42.Kb3 Qe1 43.Qf4+ Kd7 44.Qd4+ Kc7 45.Qd3; although White is easily winning, Gershon posts his Queen on its best square, which thwarts any black perpetual check counter-play.

45...Qg1 46.a4 Qe1 47.b5 axb5 axb5 1-0
THIS WEEK'S problem is more difficult than usual and will challenge the wits of the best players. It was composed by former world champion Mikhail Botvinnik, who died last month. White, to play and win, is down on material but ingeniously forces black into a mating net.



Solution: 1.g4+ Kb4 2.Bh6!! Qxb6; any other move by the queen allows 3.Qh2+ 3.Qh2+ Kc5 4.Qxh2+ Nc4 5.Qd3+ 5.Qd3+ Kd4 6.Qd3+ Kd4 7.Qd3+ Kd4 8.Qd3+ Kd4 9.Qd3+ Kd4 10.Qd3+ Kd4 11.Qd3+ Kd4 12.Qd3+ Kd4 13.Qd3+ Kd4 14.Qd3+ Kd4 15.Qd3+ Kd4 16.Qd3+ Kd4 17.Qd3+ Kd4 18.Qd3+ Kd4 19.Qd3+ Kd4 20.Qd3+ Kd4 21.Qd3+ Kd4 22.Qd3+ Kd4 23.Qd3+ Kd4 24.Qd3+ Kd4 25.Qd3+ Kd4 26.Qd3+ Kd4 27.Qd3+ Kd4 28.Qd3+ Kd4 29.Qd3+ Kd4 30.Qd3+ Kd4 31.Qd3+ Kd4 32.Qd3+ Kd4 33.Qd3+ Kd4 34.Qd3+ Kd4 35.Qd3+ Kd4 36.Qd3+ Kd4 37.Qd3+ Kd4 38.Qd3+ Kd4 39.Qd3+ Kd4 40.Qd3+ Kd4 41.Qd3+ Kd4 42.Qd3+ Kd4 43.Qd3+ Kd4 44.Qd3+ Kd4 45.Qd3+ Kd4 46.Qd3+ Kd4 47.Qd3+ Kd4 48.Qd3+ Kd4 49.Qd3+ Kd4 50.Qd3+ Kd4 51.Qd3+ Kd4 52.Qd3+ Kd4 53.Qd3+ Kd4 54.Qd3+ Kd4 55.Qd3+ Kd4 56.Qd3+ Kd4 57.Qd3+ Kd4 58.Qd3+ Kd4 59.Qd3+ Kd4 60.Qd3+ Kd4 61.Qd3+ Kd4 62.Qd3+ Kd4 63.Qd3+ Kd4 64.Qd3+ Kd4 65.Qd3+ Kd4 66.Qd3+ Kd4 67.Qd3+ Kd4 68.Qd3+ Kd4 69.Qd3+ Kd4 70.Qd3+ Kd4 71.Qd3+ Kd4 72.Qd3+ Kd4 73.Qd3+ Kd4 74.Qd3+ Kd4 75.Qd3+ Kd4 76.Qd3+ Kd4 77.Qd3+ Kd4 78.Qd3+ Kd4 79.Qd3+ Kd4 80.Qd3+ Kd4 81.Qd3+ Kd4 82.Qd3+ Kd4 83.Qd3+ Kd4 84.Qd3+ Kd4 85.Qd3+ Kd4 86.Qd3+ Kd4 87.Qd3+ Kd4 88.Qd3+ Kd4 89.Qd3+ Kd4 90.Qd3+ Kd4 91.Qd3+ Kd4 92.Qd3+ Kd4 93.Qd3+ Kd4 94.Qd3+ Kd4 95.Qd3+ Kd4 96.Qd3+ Kd4 97.Qd3+ Kd4 98.Qd3+ Kd4 99.Qd3+ Kd4 100.Qd3+ Kd4

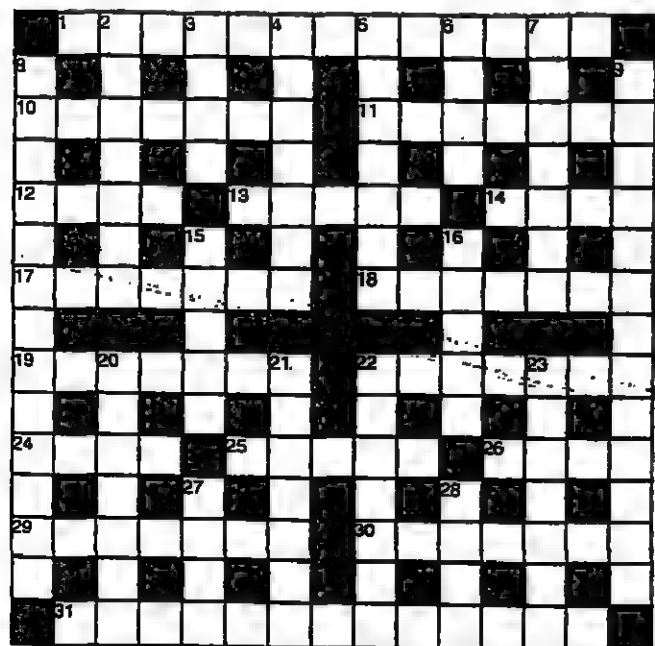
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 One old fort now turned into a capital tourist attraction (5,2,6)
- 10 Room for children to play (7)
- 11 City finance (7)
- 12 Play the flirt (4)
- 13 Away team gets a lead (5)
- 14 A number of us scowl (4)
- 17 Landing strip harbours a fugitive (7)
- 18 Joke about girl being very moral (7)
- 19 Reveals I have a thousand shares (7)
- 22 Settle for the account that attracts interest (7)

DOWN

- 24 Town house (4)
- 25 Gormless mountain dog (5)
- 26 Army team transport (4)
- 29 By endless work advanced to become rich (7)
- 30 He may go to an ancient city and sit in ruins (7)
- 31 Narrowly lost and received a school caning (6,2,1,4)
- 2 He's stern-looking in a row (7)
- 3 Vessel—we're bringing stern round (4)
- 4 A long wandering tale (7)
- 5 Bound to be awkwardly placed round the turn (5,2)
- 6 Reel up with some drinks (4)



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H O U S E I L
C O U R T A L L O W A N C E
H F T D H R G
A V E N U E P A R I S A D E
S O G G I N G T I G H T
E V I D E N T R E V E R E N D

Yesterday's Quick Solution
Across: 1. Javelin, 5. Porpoise, 9. Defy, 10. Broomway, 11. Faint, 14. Era, 16. Beauty, 17. Cockle, 18. Eat, 20. Rifle, 24. Bedding, 25. Maybe, 26. Customer, 27. Stew.
Down: 1. Spare, 2. Press, 3. Broomy, 4. Ureter, 5. Elephant, 7. Entangle, 12. Faint, 13. Gullible, 14. Eye, 15. Act, 16. Abuse, 21. Mirth, 22. Harms, 23. Wary.

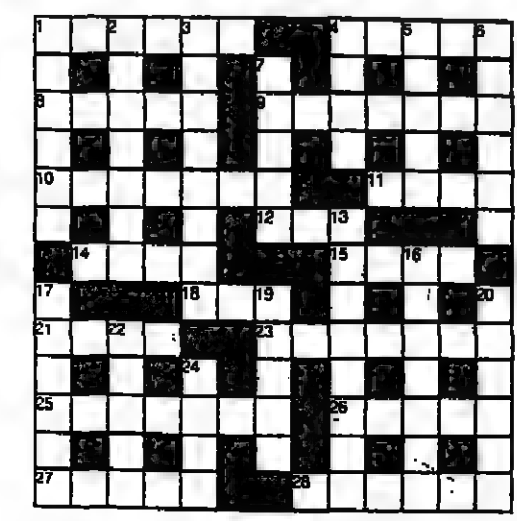
QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 A season (6)
- 4 Saline draughts (5)
- 8 Lariat (5)
- 9 Base (7)
- 10 Jubilation (7)
- 11 Plan (4)
- 12 Drag (3)
- 14 Bill of fare (4)
- 15 Too (4)
- 18 Spring (3)
- 21 Genuine (4)
- 23 Lean (7)
- 25 Act (7)
- 26 Battle (6)
- 27 Upright (5)
- 28 Assert (6)

DOWN

- 1 Greeting (6)
- 2 Letter (7)
- 3 Hugs (8)
- 4 Transmit (4)
- 5 Tag (6)
- 6 Detective (6)
- 7 Power (5)
- 13 Vigilant (8)
- 16 Pebble beach (7)
- 17 Threefold (8)
- 19 Fragrance (5)
- 20 Middle (6)
- 22 Concur (5)
- 24 Booty (4)



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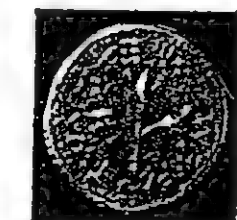


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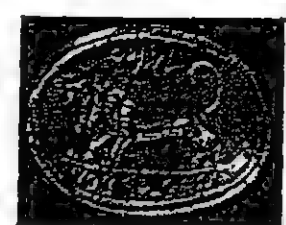
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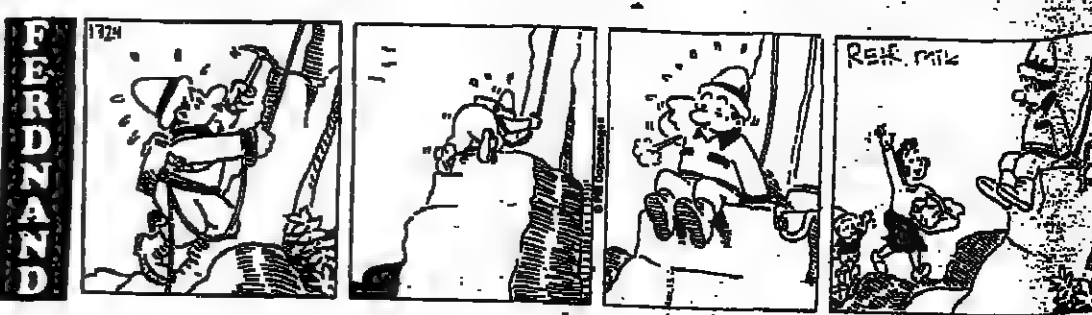


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The river of no regrets

THE Colorado River, a swift, cold, ribbon of water that carries awe-struck rafters through the very innards of the Grand Canyon, rushes violently through turbulent rapids, sometimes dropping as much as 8 meters, before depositing them gently into the placid waters of Lake Mead in Nevada.

If you're lucky - and we were - the raft stays upright and no one goes overboard. But we were not, too, when our group of 15 reached Lake Mead at the end of an arduous eight-day, 470-km trip on the large motorized raft. Most of us had seen the Grand Canyon before, either from the South Rim or North Rim, or even by riding burros down the steep trails. But only one - geologist Jim Mead, from Northern Arizona University - had rafted the river before. Mead came along as tutor and guide to decipher the incredible rock formations and the canyon's geologic history.

The charter trip was arranged through the Grand Canyon Expeditions Co. of Kanab, Utah, one of 17 companies offering trips through the canyon. There was room for 14 passengers, plus Mead, aboard a 11½-meter-long raft that resembled a few big sausages strapped together. The strange craft was powered by a 30-horsepower outboard motor that our guide - Art Thevenin, 19, the youngest boatman on the river - used to expertly steer through the swirling, tumultuous rapids.

Our most challenging and spectacular moments came in the rapids, the names of which stand out in memory - Soap Creek, Nankowap, Unkar, Hance, Sockdolager, Crystal and Lava Falls.

We approached each with some trepidation, especially the big rapids when Thevenin would yell: "All right, everyone, this is a big one. You need two good hand-holds" on the ropes stretched across the raft. "Hold on, everyone! Here we go!"

After bouncing, splashing and twisting down through the roaring chute, we struggled to shake excess water from our clothes and dry off a little before we hit the next big rapid. The water was cold.

Before long, each rapid was characterized as a "one-hander" or a "two-hander."

After one, particularly rough, ride where one person got hung up briefly on a rock, spuming us around, the raft coasted into calm water and Thevenin announced:

If you're lucky, you won't go overboard on a raft trip through the Grand Canyon, Robert Cooke reports

"This is what we call ABC; Alive Below Crystal."

About then someone yelled: "They've flipped!" A smaller raft, powered by a single oarsman, was upside down near the top of Crystal Rapid. Thevenin and other nearby boatmen immediately maneuvered their motor-powered craft to the middle of the river and began picking up rafters as they were being swept rapidly downstream. They also salvaged baggage, cushions, sandals and watertight boxes that spilled from the overturned raft. Most of the gear and all of the passengers were safely retrieved.

The water level fluctuates daily according to how much electric power is being generated at the dam. On weekends, when less power is generated, the river flows lower and slower. Water level is a significant factor both in running the rapids and in picking campsites.

Each night we camped out on a riverside sandbar, and once on a rocky ledge. At each campsite Thevenin and his "swampers" - his 23-year-old sister, Teresa - quickly set up the cooking, dishwashing and toilet facilities. The latter were primitive, to say the least. Everyone helped unload the raft, then Thevenin and his sister would start dinner.

A few tips can make camping out by the river more enjoyable: try to sleep with your mouth closed (the sand blows around at night), bathe often (even your belly button gets full of sand), and don't unroll your sleeping bag until bedtime (red ants and scorpions might take shelter there before dark).

WE ATE very, very well. Dinners included halibut, beef stew, stir-fry shrimp and filet mignon, followed by homemade cakes. Breakfast ranged from French toast to blueberry pancakes and eggs fried-to-order. For lunch

we made our own sandwiches.

One day, we ate lunch deep inside Matkatamiba Canyon, a narrow, fern-draped glen we reached from the river's eastern shore. A short hike took us through a wonderland of water-sculptured rock, gently swirling pools of warm water, and delicate hanging gardens of maiden hair ferns, nourished by water seeping through tiny fissures in the rock.

Such pools and waterfalls in the side canyons provided baths and showers, although no soap is used in these side canyons, for ecological reasons. Of course, these oases were welcome breaks, offering shelter from the hot, dry wind that blew persistently upstream through the Grand Canyon.

The weather was hot, usually hitting 35°C to 38°C in the afternoons. Nights were cooler, starting soon after dark when the hot wind usually slowed, and then turned cool. By morning most campers ended up sleeping inside, rather than on top of, their sleeping bags.

The steepness of the cliffs and the depth of the canyon often made it feel like we were camping in a cathedral. The sun played on the high buttes and reflected down to the river, performing an ever-changing dance of light. After dark, the stars shone awesomely bright through the narrow swath of sky visible between the canyon walls.

During the day we were constantly wet, so most of us wore bathing suits all of the time - augmented with lots of sunblock.

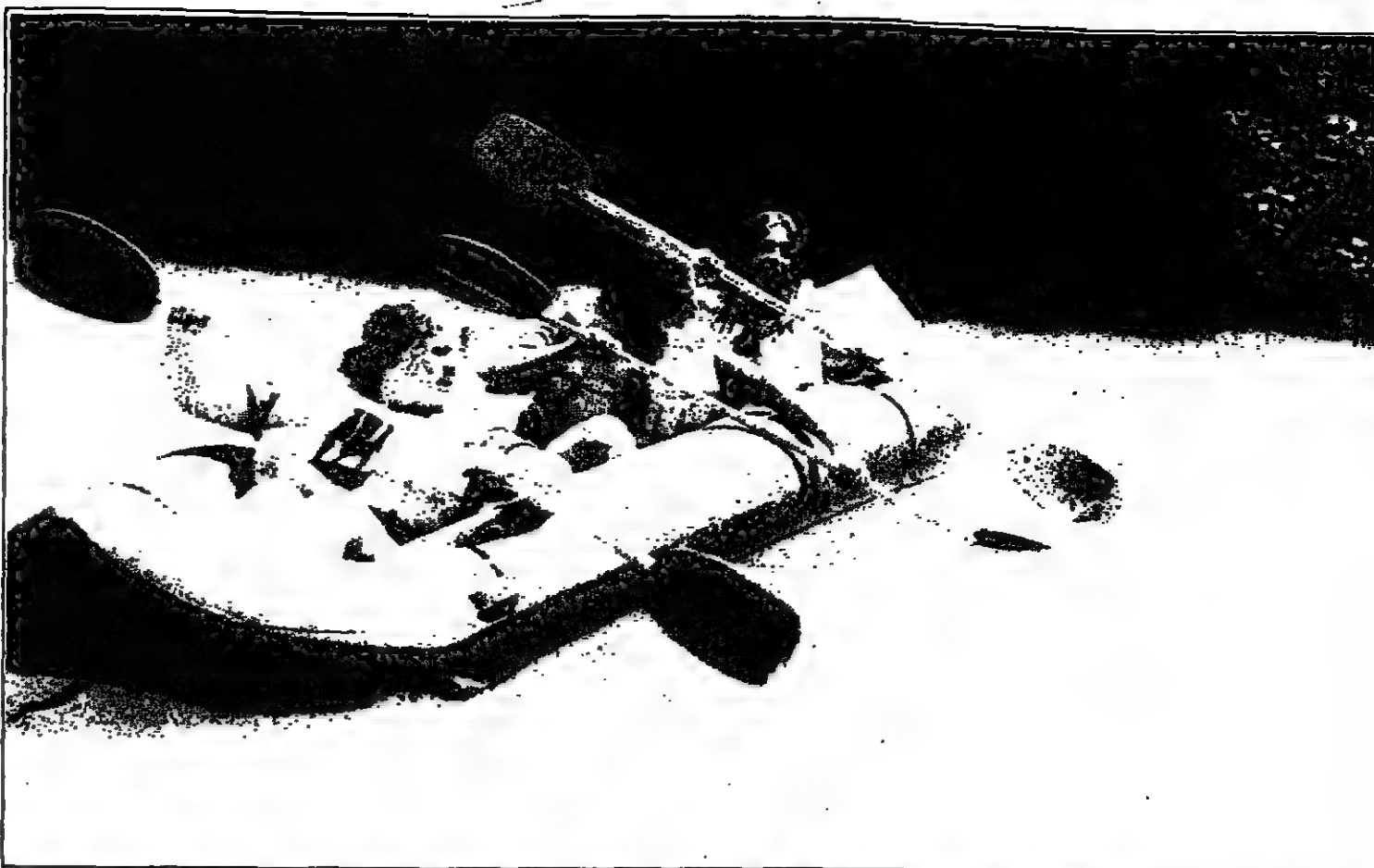
The river was particularly cold, about 10°C, when we began our trip at Lees Ferry, Arizona, and it didn't warm very much by the time we reached Lake Mead. But the cold was often welcome on the hottest days and a quick swim easily erased the heat.

At the juncture where the Little Colorado River joins the main stream at Mile 61, we swam in warm, bright blue saline water, being careful not to drink it. The smaller river carries loads of salts dissolved from the rocks it passes through.

Mead, the geologist, led us on side trips, such as up the canyon wall to Stanton's Cave, at Mile 32, showing us clues to the canyon's ancient ecological history.

At the end of eight days of rafting and camping, plus a speedboat ride to a waiting bus, and a long ride back to Las Vegas, most of us were ready for warm showers and real beds.

(Newsday)



Where the Jordan River widens and the water is calmer, riders can go with the flow, paddling gently to propel the boat.

Take a ride on the mild side

On a Jordan River kayak ride, worry about the water's turbulence is displaced by sheer relaxation, Heather Chait writes

NEEED a quick fix of invigorating mountain air, the sound of flowing water and real relaxation, all just a 90-minute drive from Tel Aviv?

Sign up for a kayaking trip on the Jordan River - a journey of sheer escapism.

The trip, hosted by three kibbutzim - Hagoshrim, Kfar Blum and Ma'ayan Baruch, began in near hysteria as apprehensions surfaced over contact lenses, asthma and life-vests, while the fast-flowing waters of the Jordan contributed little to ease our fears. The reputation of the river's turbulence was obviously a real worry for some.

But after just one step into the kayak and a firm hold on the paddle, you cannot but move into a mode of sheer relaxation.

Our journey followed a southerly route from Kibbutz Hagoshrim and combined the 4-km trip in Nahal Hazbani to Sde Nehemia, and from there another 2 km in the milder waters of the Jordan until the endpoint at Kfar Blum.

The rubber crafts seat up to

five passengers. Paddling in the Jordan is almost unnecessary since the waters are strong enough to propel you along, occasionally bringing you against a tree stump or a cluster of cushioning ferns.

Like a saucer ride at a fairground, the kayak spins in the current, colliding with a mud bank and circling with the natural flow of the water but never posing any threat in the shallow waters.

The scenery is enchanting. Hanging boughs meet overhead to provide a shady avenue while below, on the banks, the thick undergrowth parts to reveal a nutria slipping down to drink at the shore.

The route is wide and easily navigable but it's wise to heed directions.

If you grasp a branch, you're liable to remain there, and paddling against the tide is fruitless and potentially dangerous.

Though work on the river has preserved the natural quality of the area, allowing the gnarled roots of the plane tree to flourish intact, in some places the protruding foliage can make the going rough.

After the more adventurous 4-km route which calls for clear wits, the river widens further into the calmer waters of the Jordan. Here a gentle paddle suffices to propel you along and the only thing to do is relax and just

flow with the tide. Beware! A warning of an impending waterfall, man-made to regulate the tide, may interrupt your siesta. Brace yourself, duck and drop with the waterfall.

All too soon, the rope marking the end of the course is in front of you and you disembark at Kfar Blum, hauling the sturdy kayak on shore. Change into dry clothing and settle down to a delicious lunch in the plush kibbutz guesthouse.

Kayak trips are available from Pessah to Succot seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The 4-km route has a minimum age limit of 14, while the 2-km route welcomes children from the age of two up.

The price for a 90-minute trip is NIS 70 for a couple, with a 20 percent discount for a group of more than 20. The price for a single is NIS 35.

To reach the starting point, follow signs to Kibbutz Hagoshrim, from where a five-minute drive takes you to the banks of the river.

The Golan Dairy Farm draws herds of tourists

SEE IT HERE
HAIM SHAPIRO

TOURISTS have curious tastes, so the fact that some of them enjoy viewing the rear end of a herd of cows shouldn't be too surprising.

The cows belong to the Golan Dairy Farm, located in Kibbutz Ortal but owned jointly by Ortal, Kibbutz Elrom and Kibbutz Merom Hagolan.

With the Golan Heights in the news almost daily, the area is attracting an increased number of visitors, and the regional council is doing everything possible to encourage this. The hope is that the more people who visit the area, the greater public sentiment will be against returning the region to the Syrians, according to regional council chairman Yehuda Wollman.

"Tourism is our picture window," he said.

During a tour for journalists, Wollman noted that, although Tourism Minister Uzi Baram has often expressed the view that Israel will soon be giving up the area, as tourism minister he has pushed for continuing development. This year the government is to invest some NIS 6 million in tourism projects in the Golan Heights, Wollman said.

"Despite what might appear to be the case, in everything concerned with professional contacts, there is a very positive relationship between the Golan and the Tourism Ministry," he said.

Even with political interest running high, it takes a very special type of tourist to visit a dairy farm. According to farm director Eitan Sadeh, about 10,000 visitors a year, many of them involved in agriculture, come to see the operation, the largest of its kind in the country.

The tourists have included visitors from Egypt and Morocco, Sadeh said.

For city folks, the milking process is quite a sight. The cows come up to a circular platform, which rotates as they are milked, with a computer recording not only the amount of milk, but also its quality, allowing for quick identification of cows with udder infection.

Each revolution of the platform takes seven minutes, the av-

erage time needed for a milking, but the computer can also identify cows whose milking has not been completed. They go around a second time, Sadeh said.

Sadeh also said each cow wears a pedometer to measure the distance it has walked. That enables the dairy farmers to determine when it is in heat, since cows are more active then. At that point, the cow is artificially inseminated with semen from a bull considered a suitable genetic mate.

The platform, built by Kibbutz Afikim according to a system developed in New Zealand, floats on water, making it possible for the rotation to be carried out with only a small motor. Sadeh emphasized that, although the farm did not develop the system, its computerization reached this level of sophistication here.

For those interested in visiting the Golan Heights, there are some 3,500 beds in field schools and in rural accommodations in kibbutzim, moshavim and in Katzrin. The regional council has a reservations-and-information service which can be reached by calling 06-962885 and 06-962882.

Cellular phone link to home

TRAVEL TIPS
HAIM SHAPIRO

FOR those who must have a constant link with Israel.

Ofakim Tours is now providing its tour leaders abroad with a cellular phone, making it possible for friends and family to stay in contact with those on tour 24 hours a day.

THE YOUNG and young at heart can take advantage of American Adventures, which specializes in off-the-beaten-track tours in the US and Canada, and Top Deck Tours in Europe, both represented here by Rimont Tours. Participants travel by van or bus, camp in tents and prepare their meals with others on the tour. Prices run to about \$60 a day, including food.

For the somewhat more staid, Rimont also represents Insight Tours, which offers coach tours and river cruises in English of Britain and Europe, with prices starting at about \$75 a day.

TZABAR, WHICH usually specializes in vacation packages in this country, has branched out and is offering a series of low-price packages abroad. Among its offerings are three nights in Cyprus from \$314, three nights in Istanbul from \$337 and three nights in London from \$437. There are also seven-night packages to Marmaris, on the Turkish coast, from \$374, and to eastern Portugal from \$437.

GEOGRAPHICAL TOURS is offering an 11-day safari to Kenya for the price of its eight-day safari. The cost of the tour, which leaves on June 26, is \$2,014.

For those for whom money is no object, Geographical Tours also has a 29-day tour of the Silk Route, from Istanbul to Beijing, for \$6,395.

PELTOURS IS offering what it claims is the best connection to Morocco, with an El Al flight to Marrakesh, a brief stopover, and a continuing flight on Royal Moroccan Airlines. The flights are part of a 15-day tour of Morocco for \$1,610, including five-star hotels and half board.

PASSENGERS TO London can have the option of LTL, a limousine service to and from the airport. Prices are £9.50 per adult (£8 per child) between Heathrow Airport and central London, and £13 (£12 for a child) to or from Gatwick or Stanstead airports. The limousines carry up to six passengers, making up to three

stops, but for £22, one or more passengers can have the vehicle to themselves. LTL can be contacted through travel agents or at 03-517-6555.

THE PARADISE Vacation Village on Lake Kinneret now has a dock for speedboats, water scooters, yachts and tourist boats. The dock has facilities for fueling and minor repairs and a tractor to haul boats onto the shore.

ARKIA IS offering free flights to Rosh Pina for anyone booking two nights, midweek, in the Rimont Inn in Safed. The cost is NIS 378 per person. The offer is good until the end of June. The airline has similar packages for a wide range of guest houses and hotels throughout Galilee.

THAILAND'S Tourism Authority has announced, in honor of the 50th birthday of King Rama IX, all visitors to Thailand who are 50 or over, or whose birthday is June 5, or who are a family of three or more, are to receive an extra day's accommodation free. The offer may be arranged through travel agents or through the authority. Tel. 03-672-7624. It is valid through June 1996.

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KFAR SAVA - Hechal Hatarbut
Tickets NIS 50 from Hechal Hatarbut box office; Concert in aid of Meir Hospital

Sunday, June 18, 7:30 p.m.
TEL AVIV/JAFFA - Noga Theater
Tickets NIS 10 from the Municipality, Room 1147, box office on the night. Info: 03-5218279, 5218096

Monday, June 19, 9:00 p.m.
KFAR MENACHEM - Bet Habanim
Adults NIS 25; Youth/Soldiers/Seniors NIS 10
Tickets - Mo'etza Ezorit Yoav, box office on the night - 08-583501

Tuesday, June 20, 8:30 p.m.
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Choosing perfection in imperfection

SHAVUOT tells us not only about Torah and first-fruits, but also about leadership. It does so by marking King David's birthday and the anniversary of his death, in addition to marking the anniversary of the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai and to being the biblical first-fruits festival.

David, for all his shortcomings, is the Jewish model of leadership

and the progenitor of Messiah. Yet he was not the first choice to sit on the newly established throne of the Israelite tribal confederation. God's first choice for this task was Saul.

That being so, why was Saul's reign so short-lived and why was it not given to him to establish a dynasty?

Let us see how the Tanach develops the story, but especially

how the talmudic Sages analyze it and try to fill in some gaps. For it is the Sages' analyses and elaborations that essentially have shaped our perception of biblical personalities and events, the Tanach itself usually being painfully sparing of details.

In this instance, as in so many others, the Sages' main lesson is that life is dialectical; that God offers us choices and tells us of

MOSHE KOHN

their respective consequences; that even He doesn't always know how we will choose; and that nobody is absolutely right and nobody, except Amalek, absolutely evil.

About Saul, the Sages tell us that it was not given him to establish a dynasty because his lineage was impeccable. They teach that

we are not to pick as a leader someone who has no blemish in his lineage. For only if there is some imperfection in his pedigree can we, if he ever gets high and mighty, pull him back down by reminding him of his origins.

On the other hand, Saul gained the kingship to begin with because of his modesty, humility and fear of sin, because he observed the priestly laws of ritual purity, did not squander the people's money, treated his servants with respect, was a Tora scholar and honored his father.

SOME 400 years after Joshua led the Jews into the Promised Land the "elders of Israel" demand of Samuel, the last of the "Judges," that he appoint a king to "govern us, like all the nations (Saul's story is told in I Samuel, from chapter 8 to the end).

Samuel demurs, but God tells him to do as the people ask.

Enter Saul: "There was...a Benjamite...named Saul, an excellent young man; there was no better man among the Israelites; he was a head taller than any of his fellows."

When Samuel tells Saul that God has picked him to be Israel's first king, he is taken aback and says: "But I am a mere Benjamite, from the smallest of Israel's tribes, and my clan is the least of all the Benjamite clans. Why do you speak thus to me?"

Samuel honors Saul publicly and anoints him secretly. Then he assembles the people at Mizpah, tells them God has decided to grant them their request, and Saul is acclaimed as king.

"Saul was one year old when he became king." This means that he was as clean of sin as a one-year old.

On his way home from the assembly Saul shows the first sign of the weakness of character that

eventually caused his downfall. Some "scoundrels" scoff him and he "pretended not to mind."

Saul should not have overlooked this slur on his leadership, for a king must not gloss over an insult to his royal dignity.

The Hebrew text of the above description of Saul's height can also be read as a description of Saul's qualitative superiority - i.e. "he was head and shoulders above" his fellows. But because of his apparently habitual irresolution, as exemplified by the above incident, the Sages read it to mean simply his physical height.

Saul then leads the nation in a successful war against the Ammonites and rejects the people's demand to kill the scoundrels who had insulted him.

Samuel now summons the people to Gilgal to "inaugurate the monarchy," telling Saul to wait seven days till he arrives to offer the sacrifices. On the seventh day, the people become impatient waiting for Samuel and begin to leave. So Saul offers the sacrifices himself.

Just as he finishes, Samuel arrives, and asks Saul why he didn't wait as instructed. Saul makes his excuses and Samuel says: "You have acted foolishly. If you had obeyed God's command, He would have established your line over Israel for all time. But now your line will not endure; God will seek a man after His own heart and appoint him ruler..."

In the incident with his son Jonathan and the honey Saul again displays irresolution, combined with impulsiveness of speech, and again he submits to the people's demand - concerning an act he should not have pledged to commit in the first place.

NOTWITHSTANDING all this, Saul secures his throne. Now the time has come to annihilate the

Amalekites, as commanded in Deuteronomy 25:17-19.

Samuel gives Saul detailed instructions. But in the battle that follows, Saul spares Amalekite King Agag and the cattle.

God tells Samuel to instruct Saul that he is fed up with him. When they meet, Saul greets Samuel with: "God's blessings on you! I have obeyed God's command." A bald lie, with Saul displaying "grossness of spirit." Samuel says: Really? Then why do I hear the bleating of sheep and lowing of cattle?

Saul first lies, then shifts the blame onto "the people," and then suddenly finds a sacred purpose for it all.

Samuel tells him: Modesty and humility are very well and good, but you are the people's leader, God's anointed king. Why did you disobey instructions and pounce on the spoils?

Saul repeats his lie, evasion and pious afterthought.

Samuel rejects Saul's explanation and tells him: "Because you have rejected God's word, He has rejected you as king."

Saul finally admits his guilt, saying: "I was afraid of the people and deferred to them."

Samuel refuses to forgive him and tells him God has decided to transfer the kingship to "another man, one worthier than you."

Samuel himself then executes Agag, and he and Saul part.

God commands Samuel to anoint David in secret. David becomes Saul's musician, then, after killing Goliath, a national hero. Saul becomes consumed with jealousy and tries to have David killed, several times even trying to kill him himself.

When David, in flight from Saul, is helped by the priests of Nov, Saul has the town and everybody in it wiped out. What Saul hesitated to do to Israel's archenemy, Amalek, he has



David soothing the disturbed Saul. Lithograph by German artist Otto Dix.

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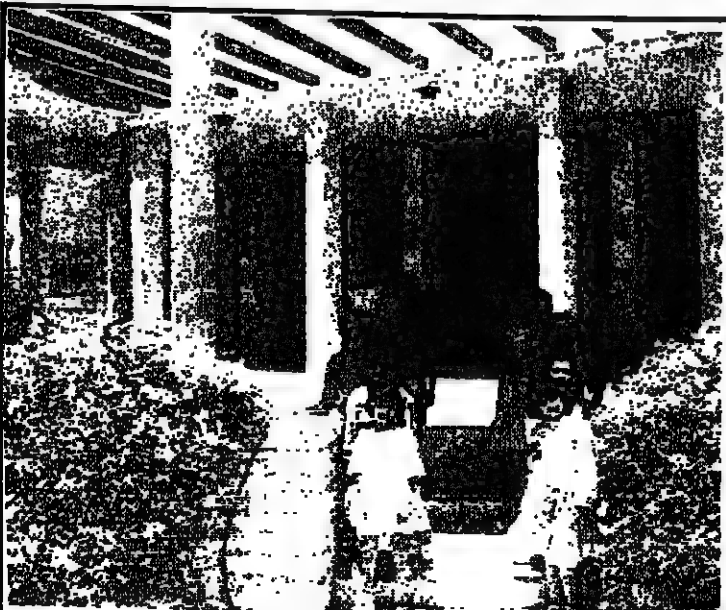
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דפוס ירושלים

Doeg do to Nov: "[Doeg] put to the sword every living thing in the city of priests: men and women, children and infants, oxen, asses and sheep."

Finally Saul and his sons perish in the battle with the Philistines at Mt. Gilboa.

THE SAGES consider Saul to have been overzealous in the matter of Amalek.

Saul, being a Torah scholar, wonders about the order to exterminate the Amalekites: If when a single person is murdered and the murderer's identity isn't known, the Torah commands us to break a heifer's neck in a wadi, as expiation until the murderer is found, then one must surely have mercy on all those Amalekites! If the people sinned, where did the animals sin? If the men sinned, where did the women sin? If the women sinned, where did the children sin?

Whereupon a Heavenly Voice calls out: "Don't be overzealous" (Ecclesiastes 7:16); don't be more righteous than your Creator!"

Afterwards, when Saul has Nov annihilated, a Heavenly Voice calls out: "Don't be overzealous!" (Ecclesiastes 7:17).

It is said: Those who are merciful to the cruel end up being cruel to the merciful.

So Saul is good, and bad, as we are taught: "For five sins was that righteous man [!] slain..." And, when David celebrates Saul's downfall (Psalms 7), God tells him: "If Saul had been born in your constellation and you had been born in his, I would have traded many of your ilk for him!"

DAVID WAS not handicapped by an impeccable lineage. One of his matriarchs was Tamar, who, after being twice left a childless widow, posed as a prostitute in

order to have a child by her father-in-law, Judah (Genesis 38). One of his matriarchs was Moab, child of the incestuous relationship between Lot and his elder daughter (Genesis 19). Another eminent matriarch was Ruth the Moabite princess (whose story we read as part of the Shavuot synagogue service). She was a convert from a people whose descendants are banned from entry into the Jewish covenant (Deuteronomy 23:4).

A major difference between David and Saul is that Saul's wrongdoings were mainly on the "state" level, in his functioning as king. That was unforgivable, all the more so as he repeatedly shifted responsibility onto "the

people."

David's wrongdoings were mainly on the personal, private level.

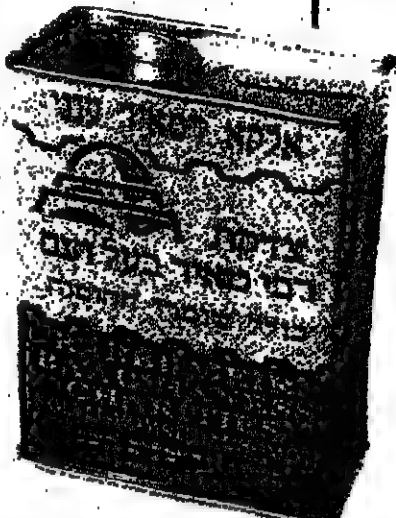
Furthermore, and perhaps most important of all, he took responsibility for them (II Samuel 11-12, I Kings 15:5).

(See also Yoma 22b; Midrash Shmuel 17; Pesikta d'Rav Kahana 5; Bemidbar Rabba 11:3; Tosefta Berachot 5:16; Kiddushin 22b; Yerushalmi Sota 1:8; Tanna De-vay Elihu Rabba 31; Pirkei d'Rabbi Eliezer 44; Midrash Shohar Tov 7; Yalkut Shimoni 121; Shabbat 56a; Sanhedrin 107a; Yerushalmi Berachot 9:5; Midrash Tehillim 18:28; Vayikra Rabba 26:7; Midrash Tehillim 7:3; Mo'ed Katan 16b.)

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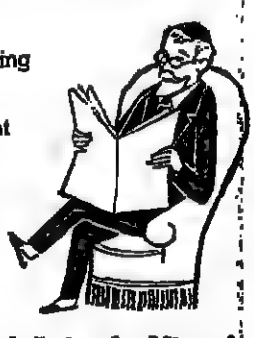


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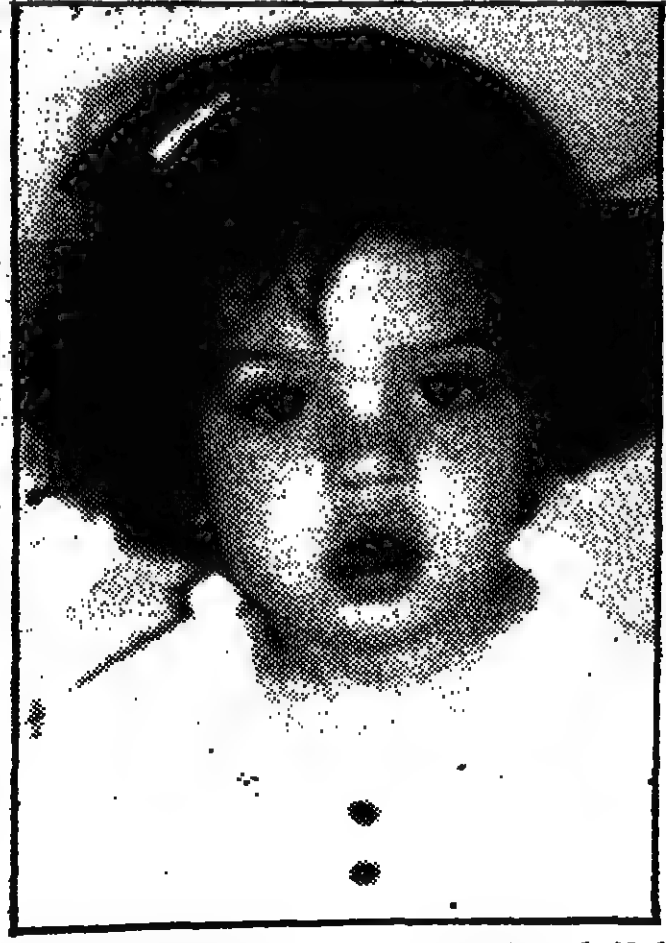
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Joshua Goodman/Doug Greenleaf

BUSINESS & FINANCE

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1995

Foreign currency reserves reach new record high

FOREIGN currency reserves reached a new record high of \$9.626 billion last month, as speculators continued to take advantage of high shekel interest rates, the Bank of Israel said yesterday.

Although the central bank has cut interest rate by three percentage points since the beginning of March, real interest rates have remained high, based on the low consumer price indexes since the beginning of the year.

The reserves rose by \$113 million in May, as the private sector sold its foreign currency holdings in order to cash in on the high interest rates.

The increase in reserves was moderated last month by government payments abroad. Total foreign currency trading was \$4.58b. last month.

The basket of currencies rose 1.31% against the shekel in May, an annual rise of 11.47% since

the beginning of the year. Similarly, the dollar gained 1.49% against the shekel last month, dropping at an annual rate of 1.04% since the beginning of the year. At the end of last month, the currency basket exchange rate stood 0.49% below the "crawling peg's" exchange rate mechanism midpoint.

Meanwhile, the state budget had a NIS 81m. surplus last

month, the Treasury said yesterday. Expenditures were NIS 8b., while revenues totaled NIS 8.1b.

The government's net borrowing reached NIS 63m.

Since the beginning of the year, the government accumulated a budget deficit of NIS 308m. Expenditures totaled NIS 41.6b., while revenues were NIS 41.3b. The Treasury raised NIS 524m. and its income from the sale of government companies totaled NIS 1.85b.

JOEL shares jump 10% on sale rumor

RACHEL NEIMAN

gila-Bistop is reportedly under negotiation for sale as well.

Oil exploration and investment company Pass-Port has been plagued by problems since making a \$9.5 million investment in now bankrupt vacuum cleaner company Regina in 1994.

JOEL's shareholders equity for the end of the first quarter stands at NIS 137m. Elmaleh personally owns 3.59% of the shares in JOEL, and SSE, a UK-based firm owned and operated by El-

maleh, owns 10.85%. JOEL owns 33.84% of Pass-Port and Elmaleh owns 1.81% more.

The action would reduce Elmaleh's local activities to his involvement in Isramco, which he heads.

Credit Lines, headed by businessman Yuval Ran, is involved in "grey market" funding and loan activities through various subsidiaries and is active in the retail market through Ken's Cookies bakeries. Credit Lines shareholder's equity at the end of the first quarter was NIS 88.9m.

Most mutual funds report positive real yields for May

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

MORE than 80 percent of the mutual funds achieved positive real yields last month, reflecting the recovery of the capital market, the Meitav Consultancy Firm reported yesterday.

Meitav announced that 242 of the 294 funds achieved real yields of more than 0.5%, the predicted rise in the Consumer Price Index for May. The best performing funds were the share funds which achieved an average real yield of 3%. The poorest were funds specializing in bonds with an average

real yield of 1%.

Leading the gainers was Ilanot Tikoret, a fund specializing in computer telecommunications, with a real yield of 7.7%. The worst performing fund was Afikim Bonds, with a negative return of 6%.

The mutual fund's general share index rose 2.1% last month. Since the start of the year, 133 of the 290 funds achieved positive real yields of more than 1.7%, the estimated increase in the CPI.

Shekel falls 0.7% against dollar

THE ripples of the concerted intervention of major central banks, which boosted the dollar against the yen in world currency markets, was felt here yesterday as the shekel fell 0.732 percent against the US currency to NIS 3.027.

By contrast, the basket of currencies lost 0.727

percent to the shekel, dropping to NIS 3.4944.

The shekel gained against the major European and Japanese currencies, rising 2.598% to NIS 2.1106 to the mark, 0.712% to NIS 4.7913 to the British pound, 2.845% to NIS 3.53 to the yen and 2.389% to NIS 0.6005 to the French franc.

First quarter net earnings plummet 73.6% at Israel Corp.

COMPANY RESULTS

RACHEL NEIMAN

ISRAEL Corporation first quarter net profits plummeted 73.6 percent to NIS 5.23 million from NIS 19.83m.

Earnings per share fell to NIS 1.11 from NIS 4.21.

Quarterly revenues were NIS 223.15m., down from NIS 217.97m. in the comparable period.

First quarter revenues on sales, projects and services rose to NIS 213m. from NIS 176.63m.

Revenues on subsidiaries fell to NIS 8.6m. from NIS 16.7m.

Capital gains were NIS 472,000 compared with NIS 23,98m. in the first quarter of 1994, due mainly to gains on Jaf-Ora.

Israel Corp. attributed the drop to \$1.5m losses by ZIM, to continuing losses by Edunetics and to a lack of significant capital gains during the quarter.

Oil Refineries reported quarterly net profits to NIS 27.88m. from NIS 11.9m. in 1994. Earnings per share were NIS 0.08 from NIS 0.04.

First quarter consolidated revenues were NIS 1.43 billion, up from NIS 1.25b. in 1994.

INOC - Dead Sea first quarter net losses were NIS 515,435, down from losses of NIS 1.4m. in 1994.

Revenues were NIS 234,199 down from NIS 564,541.

Ormat Industries net profits for the 1995 three month period were NIS 2.13m., down from NIS 2.69m. in 1994. Earnings per share were NIS 0.04, from

NIS 0.05.

Quarterly revenues were NIS 86.3m., up from NIS 46m.

Al-Rov reported quarterly net profits of NIS 56,000 from net losses of NIS 1.84m. in 1994.

First quarter revenues were NIS 44.9m., up from NIS 9.66m.

Ackerstein net profits for the three-month period were NIS 102,000, down from NIS 348,000 in 1994.

Earnings per share were NIS 0.008 from NIS 0.024. Revenues were NIS 33.3m., down from NIS 40.7m.

Israel Phoenix Insurance reported first quarter net profits of NIS 8.4m., down from NIS 17.37m. in 1994. Earnings per share were NIS 0.70, down from NIS 1.44.

Revenues were NIS 23.1m. from NIS 72.98m. in 1994.

US manufacturing sector shrinks in May

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The manufacturing sector shrank in May after more than 1 1/2 years of unbroken expansion, a key industry survey showed yesterday, posing a threat to jobs and the risk of a deepening economic slowdown.

The National Association of Purchasing Management said its monthly index of manufacturing activity fell to 46.1 last month from 52.0 in April - the first time in 21 months it dropped under the critical level of 50 that marks the dividing point between growth and contraction.

The report buttressed signs of weakness that appeared in April, as the Commerce Department reported the sharpest fall in factory orders in nine months and a sharp slowdown in consumer incomes and spending.

As consumers have cut back on spending, inventories have risen. As a result, factories have slowed production and scaled back operations.

The government report on personal incomes and spending during April noted that manufacturing payrolls fell in April at a rate of \$7.4 billion a year, more than twice the \$3.6 billion rate of decline in March.

That was partly because workers in the auto industry received large bonus payments in February and March but none in April, but that too reflected the industry's problem with weaker sales.

Overall incomes went up just 0.3 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$6.01 trillion in April, the smallest rise since last November when they were flat, following a revised 0.5 percent March increase.

Spending also gained 0.3 percent to \$4.82 trillion in April - less than half the big revised 0.7 percent March rise. Since consumer spending fuels two-thirds of national economic activity, as spending slows so does the economy.

He said Federal Reserve policymakers might be forced to reverse course after seven interest-rate rises and possibly cut rates by August to try to stimulate economic activity and avert recession.

tepid business activity was evident at the factory gate in April, as new orders fell 1.9 percent to a seasonally adjusted \$293.96 billion after declines of 0.4 percent in March and 0.3 percent in February.

Knesset Finance Committee approves bill to prevent concentrating control of economy

EVELYN GORDON

THE supervisor of monopolies would be able to nix deals if purchasing a certain company would give the buyer too dominant a position in the economy as a

whole, rather than just in a certain sector, according to a bill approved by the Knesset Finance Committee yesterday.

The bill, by committee chairman Gedaiya Gal (Labor), will now be sent to the plenum for its final reading.

Gal said the bill's main purpose is to prevent government companies from being sold off to people who already have huge corporate holdings in Israel, and who, though they may not dominate

any particular sector, therefore wind up having an excessive weight in the economy as a whole.

Currently, the supervisor of monopolies can rule against a merger only if it would make the new company too dominant a player in a certain industry.

He is therefore helpless in a situation such as the recent sale of Israel Chemicals to Shouli Eisenberg's Israel Corporation, where the concern was Eisenberg's power in the economy as a whole, rather than in a certain sector.

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(Fourth in a four-part series for investors)

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If you choose not to invest your money at all, preferring perhaps to keep cash hidden in your mattress, you face a potential loss in buying power. At an inflation rate of 4%, for example, the sum of \$10,000 left uninvested for 20 years will be worth less than \$4,500 in "today's" dollars. Although there are risks associated with investing, you must take into account that "a penny saved may soon be eaten by inflation."

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How risky is your portfolio? How can you lower your inflation risk? For a no-obligation portfolio review, call Douglas Goldstein, Manager of our Securities Division, at 02-244963.

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WORLD MARKETS REPORT

● US DOLLAR - Towards the end of last week the dollar fell on expectations that US domestic rates would not be raised. However, with the help of concerted inter-bank intervention the dollar recovered from a low of DM1.37 to DM1.43.

● UK EQUITIES - The FTSE-100 continued to gain ground on a firm Wall Street, to reach a 1995 intra-day high of 3380. The strength of the dollar, plus Japan's trade talk hopes triggered buying of dollar-denominated Cable and Wireless (CWL, 4290) and HSBC (HSBK, 5220).

An improved underlying performance from international healthcare concern London International Group (LIG, 1100) saw the group record preliminary PBT of £15.2m versus a 1994 loss of £175m. The dividend was reinstated at 1.0p. LIG, recommended in December 1994 at 80p, is a continuing recovery play.

● ASIA-PACIFIC - A perception from investors that the US economy would experience a "soft landing" saw strong US and Japanese buying of the Asian markets. Hong Kong was firm as investors focused on interest rate sensitive stocks; banking and property stocks attracted attention. Technically, the rally in the Hang Seng has breached short-term resistance at 9250 to challenge the 19-month resistance at 9600 - 9650. Overall, the market is maintaining its positive mood, and a challenge to 9800 can be expected in due course. Singapore is expected to continue to trade between the 2150 - 2250 bands. However, volume on the exchange has been thin. Blue Chips, particularly in banking, property and ship yards, continue to attract attention, but are looking overbought in the short term.

● SOUTH AFRICA - Equities on the Johannesburg ended mixed on the week, with the JSE Overall index ending down 0.8% at 5443. Gold shares firmed on a stronger bullion price and industrials drifted amid a lack of interest. Volume on the exchange was thin amid the Rugby World Cup, which South Africa is currently hosting. Betwether JSE stock Anglo American Corporation (ANGJ, R155.50), reported preliminary results ahead of market expectations. Net earnings increased by 20% to R3350m, with all divisions showing an improvement. The full year dividend was raised 14% to 450c. Anglo is a core constituent in any South African portfolio, and look to establish a position on any move to R160.00.

● GOLD - A weaker dollar saw bullion briefly breaking through a key 12-month resistance at \$386/oz. The rise failed to hold, and gold fell back to its trading range of \$382 - 385/oz.

● PFM ISRAEL GROWTH FUND: Net Asset Value as at May 29, 1995 - US\$5.17

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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS									
Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (1.6.95)									
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	9 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	18 MONTHS	24 MONTHS	36 MONTHS	48 MONTHS	60 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	5.125	5.125	5.125	5.125	5.125	5.125	5.125	5.125	5.125
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.625	4.625	4.625	4.625	4.625	4.625	4.625	4.625	4.625
German mark (DM 200,000)	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000
Yen (¥10 million)	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000
Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (1.6.95)									
Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Buy	Sell	Banknotes
U.S. dollar	3.0137	3.0594	2.98	3.01	3.01	2.98	3.01	3.01	2.98
German mark	2.1001	2.1940	2.08	2.17	2.17	2.08	2.17	2.17	2.08
Pound sterling	4.7870	4.8426	4.68	4.82	4.82	4.68	4.82	4.82	4.68
French franc	0.3995	0.4093	0.39	0.40	0.40	0.39	0.40	0.40	0.39
Japanese yen (¥100)	3.5163	3.5793	3.45	3.53	3.53	3.45	3.53	3.53	3.45
Dutch guilder	1.6783	1.6998	1.64	1.66	1.66	1.64	1.66	1.66	1.64
Swiss franc	2.5189	2.5799	2.49	2.52	2.52	2.49	2.52	2.52	2.49
Scandinavian krona	0.4080	0.4146	0.40	0.41	0.41	0.40	0.41	0.41	0.40
Spanish peseta	0.4722	0.4899	0.46	0.48	0.48	0.46	0.48	0.48	0.46
Danish krone	0.5383	0.5470	0.52	0.53	0.53	0.52	0.53	0.53	0.52
Finnish mark	0.5672	0.5888	0.57	0.59	0.59	0.57	0.59	0.59	0.57
Canadian dollar	2.1852	2.2107	2.15	2.17	2.17	2.15	2.17	2.17	2.15
Australian dollar	2.1008	2.1857	2.12	2.23	2.23	2.12	2.23	2.23	2.12
S. African rand	0.2161	0.2283	0.21	0.22	0.22	0.21	0.22	0.22	0.21
Belgian franc (10)	1.0240	1.0484	1.01	1.03	1.03	1.01	1.03	1.03	1.01
Austrian schilling (10)	2.0887	2.0349	2.03	2.08	2.08	2.03	2.08	2.08	2.03
Italian lira (1000)	1.2524	1.2546	1.22	1.23	1.23	1.22	1.23	1.23	1.22
Jordanian dinar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Egyptian pound	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Irish punt	3.2655	3.3336	3.26	3.33	3.33	3.26	3.33	3.33	3.26
Portuguese escudo (100)	4.8549	4.8833	4.77	5.01	5.01	4.77	5.01	5.01	4.77
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4250	2.4642	2.38	2.50	2.50	2.38	2.50	2.50	2.38

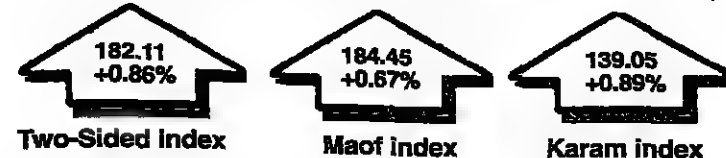
* These rates vary according to bank.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Market starts month on positive note

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

RACHEL NEIMAN



JUNE trading got off on the right foot yesterday, with moderate rises and turnovers. The general index increased 0.86 percent and closed at 164.15 on NIS 97 million turnover.

The day's high gainers were Givot Olam which leapt 11.1%, Amigat and Modin Energy which rose 10.3%, MLI and Kineret View which increased 10.2%.

Outstanding losers were Degem Systems, Lipman and Oki-Doke all of which fell 10%, Ab-jac dropped 9.9%.

The Two-Sided index rose 0.86% to 182.11 on NIS 78.9m turnover.

Most heavily traded was Teva, rising 3.5% on NIS 6.8m turnover. Koor rose 2% on NIS 5.95m turnover.

Elbit also moved up 2% on NIS 3.4m turnover, while parent company Elron increased 1.5% following founder Uzia Galil's statement (released Wednesday in the US) that 1995 revenues were expected to pass the billion mark, as they had in 1994.

A rumored share sale in the works sent JOEL up 10.1% on NIS 416,000 turnover and Pass-Port up 9.8%. Isramco, not considered part of the package, stayed in place. Potential purchaser Credit Lines rose 8%.

Jerusalem Economic Corporation continued to gain yesterday, this time by 5.5%. La Nacional continued rolling downhill by 6.7%.

The Karam index moved up 0.89% to 139.05 on NIS 9.6m turnover. The Maof options index was up 0.67% to 184.45.

Fertilizers & Chemicals 1 and 5 dropped 15% and 10%, respectively. TAT 1 fell 9%.

Israel Corporation 1 and 5 rose 1.5% each on NIS 2.3m and NIS 1.15m turnover, respectively.

The general bond market rose 0.05% to 140.86. Government bonds rose 0.04 to 140.23. CPI-linked bonds stayed put at 140.26 and dollar-linked bonds jumped 0.4% to 144.13.

FTSE Index rises 21.2 points to new 1995 high

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - Blue chips closed at a new 1995 high, but pared a solid advance late in the session as a sharp drop in US manufacturing data for May eroded share prices and concentrated attention on Friday's US jobs data.

The FTSE 100 index of leading UK shares ended up 21.2 at 3,340.6.

FRANKFURT - The DAX index closed floor trade higher supported by a stabilized stronger dollar and heavy interest in shares newly valued at a nominal five marks.

The DAX Index closed up 34.21 points at 2,126.38. In post-bourse trade the index eased to 2,119.24.

PARIS - French shares closed higher in line with other markets. Wall Street and the dollar in particular, in the absence of domestic market factors.

The CAC-40 Index closed up 12.85, or 0.66 percent, at 1,960.80.

ZURICH - The Swiss share market followed the dollar through the day to close at its highest level this year.

Dealers said trade had been active and volume was high. Late trading saw some profit-taking which could continue on Friday because of the long weekend, with Monday a bank holiday.

The Broad SPI ended 11.69 stronger at the year's closing high of 1,829.37.

TOKYO - Tokyo stocks closed higher after a day of directionless trade.

Only arbitrage-linked trade was moving prices as most investors were sidelined for fear that Japan's economic recovery may soon fizzle out.

The Nikkei 225 average closed up 157.78 points or 1.02 percent to 15,594.57.

HONG KONG - Hong Kong shares ended at their highest level in seven months as Wall Street's Wednesday optimism spilled into the local market. The blue-chip Hang Seng index closed at 9,559.74 points, up 152.36, or 1.62%.

SYDNEY - The Australian share market closed a touch firmer after early gains on the back of a surging Wall Street market were trimmed by a mid-afternoon sell-off of the Australian dollar.

The All Ordinaries Index finished 1.5 points, or 0.07% higher at 2,021.0.

JOHANNESBURG - South African shares made mild gains in thin trade as investors were generally unenthused by a steep Wall Street rise overnight.

The overall index collected 21.2 points to 5,492.6, the industrial index added 20.3 points to 6,928.1 and the gold index was 15.6 points better at 1,402.7.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks rose 7.61 to 4,472.75, after falling as much as 28 points early in the session.

Advancing issues had a slim lead on decliners on the Big Board, where volume was moderately heavy.

Broad-market indexes finished mixed, with the Nasdaq composite propelled higher by technology.

STOCKS were getting support from the bond market, where the 30-year US Treasury bond was up more than \$5 per \$1,000 face value and yielding 6.60 percent.

Bonds rose after the National Association of Purchasing Management said its May index of manufacturing activity slowed to 46.1 percent from 52% in April.

The NYSE's composite index rose 0.50 to 286.73. Standard and Poor's 500-stock index rose 0.09 to 533.49.

The Nasdaq composite index rose 4.24 to 568.82.

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Upon receipt of your resume, further information concerning the College and the position will be forwarded to you.

This is a second announcement
U.S. - Israel Binational Science Foundation

Executive Director

The U.S.-Israel Binational Science Foundation (BSF) was established in 1972 to support cooperative science research projects between U.S. and Israeli scientists. Research projects are funded from the interest of an endowment established in equal shares by the two governments. The office of the BSF is in Jerusalem.

According to this 1972 agreement signed by the two governments, the Board states the following regulations:

(a) "The Executive Director shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Foundation. He shall be responsible for the operations and staffing of the Foundation. He shall set in accordance with the policies, directives and delegations of the Board.

(b) The Executive Director shall be a person of outstanding ability, prominent in the scientific and administration fields. He shall be appointed by the Board of Governors under a contract not exceeding three years with such compensation and under such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Board of Governors."

Candidates for the post Executive Director must be well acquainted with the Israeli and U.S. academic research systems and the usual proposal review procedures. He or she should have a proven scientific record, as well as administrative experience in the management of scientific research programs.

Curriculum vitae and letters of interest should be submitted by August 1 in the following manner:

U.S. applicants should send their material to:
 Dr. Marcel Bardon, Director
 International Programs
 National Science Foundation
 Arlington, VA 22230
 Israeli applicants should send their material to:
 Mr. Amnon Einav, Chief Scientist
 Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure
 234 Jaffa Road
 Jerusalem, Israel.

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Smashnova makes third round

Stich eliminates Edberg; Becker advances

News agencies

ISRAEL'S only representative at Roland Garros, Anna Smashnova, 17, defeated Debbie Graham of the US 6-3, 6-4 yesterday to advance to the third round of the French Open.

The match was due to be played on Wednesday but had to be delayed because of bad light. At 47 in the world, Smashnova is ranked some 40 places higher than Graham.

Meanwhile Stefan Edberg, one of the great champions of the last decade, is running out of time in his long-shot bid for one more taste of Grand Slam glory.

The Swede's annual quest for his first French Open title - to go with his six other Grand Slam victories - ended yesterday with a 7-6 (7-3), 6-3, 6-2 second-round loss to Germany's Michael Stich.

In a match between two classic serve-and-volleyers, Stich overwhelmed Edberg in the final two sets.

"He really didn't give me a chance," Edberg said. "I tried and tried and it never really happened."

As Edberg and Stich shook hands at the net, they were bombarded by a barrage of tennis balls thrown from the upper deck of the Center Court stadium by a group of rowdy French flight cadets.

"I didn't know what was happening," Stich said. "I think they were just having fun. As long as you are winning, it's funny."

Not long ago, Edberg-vs.-Stich would shape up as a tournament final. But with Edberg unseeded this



GERMAN JUGGERNAUT - Michael Stich volleys the ball to Sweden's Stefan Edberg in their second-round match at the French Open yesterday.

complete a career Grand Slam, was in impressive form as he overpowered Jared Palmer, 6-2, 6-2, 6-2.

Two-time defending champion Sergi Bruguera also won easily, 6-4, 6-4, 6-2 over qualifier Emilio Alvarez, while sixth-seeded Chang dropped a set before subduing Daniel Vacek 6-3, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.

Larsson, the 10th seed, overcame Hendrik Dreckmann, 6-4, 6-3, 6-7 (8-6), 6-2. The two met in the quarter-finals last year, with Larsson winning after saving several match points.

No. 14 seed Todd Martin advanced, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-5) over Slava Dosedel, but No. 16 Marc Rosset was upset by Fernando Meligeni, 7-6 (9-7), 7-6 (7-4), 2-6, 6-3.

Mikael Tillstrom, who surprised No. 4 Goran Ivanisevic in the first round, lost in five sets to Bernd Karbacher. And Gilbert Schaller, the Austrian who eliminated Pete Sampras on Wednesday, blew a two-set lead and fell in five sets to Scott Draper.

In other women's play, top-seeded defending champion Arantxa Sanchez Vicario routed Sarah Pitkowski, 6-3, 6-0.

Third-seeded Mary Pierce, fighting a cold, struggled early against hard-serving Christina Singer before winning 7-5, 6-0.

Four other women's seeds also advanced to the third round with straight-sets victories: No. 5 Jane Novotna, No. 7 Lindsay Davenport, No. 12 Iva Majoli and No. 14 Amy Frazier.

year for the first time since 1984, they met in the round of 64.

Edberg, 29, recently dropped out of the top 10 of the world rankings for the first time in a decade. He's

now No. 17 and not even the top-ranked Swede (Magnus Larsson is No. 10).

Third-seeded Boris Becker, also seeking his first French Open title to

Injury keeps Rosenthal out of Israel's match vs. Romania

ORI LEWIS

ISRAEL coach Shlomo Scharf's injury worries are getting worse by the minute as the crucial European Championship Group 1 qualifier against Romania approaches.

With less than a week to go before the clash in Bucharest next Wednesday, Scharf has now lost one of his key inspirational players, Ronny Rosenthal who is out with a leg injury and says he needs another 10 days to recuperate.

Scharf surprised veteran player Eli Driks with an unexpected call-up, for as well as Rosenthal, Scharf will be without Ronnen

Harazi and Ronnie Levy who are also injured, while there are still doubts over the fitness of Eyal Berkowitz and Tal Banin who were both injured during the State Cup final on Tuesday.

Defenders Ronnen Harazi and Moshe Glan are ruled out of the squad because they had sustained two yellow cards in previous games, making the squad completely different.

But while the makeup of the attack is still a mystery, Scharf has a good idea about the defense, which will include David

Amsalem, Gadi Brumer and Felix Halfon.

The Israel national and under-21 squads will train over the long weekend before boarding the flight to Bucharest on Monday morning, by which time Scharf will have named his 18-man squad for Wednesday evening's match, which will be televised live on Channel 1 at 8 p.m.

Romania leads the group one standings with 14 points, with France second on 10 and Israel third with nine. All three teams have played six games. Poland is fourth with seven points and a game in hand.

Top Romanian players stay away

BUCHAREST (Reuters) - Romania will be without two star players against Israel, team trainer Anghel Iordanescu said yesterday.

Romanian captain, midfielder Gheorghe Hagi of Barcelona, is recovering from a muscle injury and will be a spectator next Wednesday, Iordanescu said.

Tottenham Hotspur midfielder Gheorghe Popescu, who has two previous yellow cards, is suspended for the game.

"It's a big loss for my team, as our offensive drive is at its lowest exactly when we have to win the game and snatch the three points which would take us closer to qualifying for the 1996 European finals in Britain," Iordanescu said.

Hagi also missed April's game against Azerbaijan

which Romania comfortably won 4-1.

"Unfortunately things will be different with Israel, who are a much stronger side," Iordanescu said.

Iordanescu has called up uncapped Universitatea Craiova midfielder Gabi Popescu, 19, bringing to nine the number of domestic championship players on the 18-man squad.

For the first time in two years, Iordanescu has called only nine overseas players instead of his usual 11.

Romania's squad:
Goalkeepers - Bogdan Stokic, Florin Prunea.
Defenders - Dan Petrescu, Miodrag Belodedici, Daniel Prodan, Gheorghe Mihai, Tibor Selymes.
Midfielders - Dorinel Munteanu, Ionut Lupescu, Gabriel Popescu, Dan Dumitrescu, Danut Lupu, Daniel Timotei, Sasarab Paduraru, Daniel Chirila.
Forwards - Florin Radulescu, Marius Lacatus, Jena Vladovic.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Magic beats Pacers

Shaquille O'Neal scored nine of his 35 points in a second-quarter run as the host Orlando Magic moved within one game of the NBA Finals with a 108-106 victory over the Indiana Pacers on Wednesday.

Brian Shaw scored 10 of his 15 in the fourth quarter for Orlando, which leads the best-of-seven Eastern Conference final series three games to two and can advance to the Finals with a win at Indiana today. The Magic had never won a playoff game prior to this season.

Vanessa Philips tennis semifinals today

Top-seed Shiri Burstein (356 in the WTA rankings) faces Tzippi Obziler in the first semifinal today of the Vanessa Phillips tennis satellite in Jaffa while second-seed Nelly Barkan plays Karen van der Merwe of South Africa in the other semifinal. Plays begins at 2 pm with tomorrow's final at 10:30 am.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL - Wednesday's NL results: Colorado 5, St. Louis 3; New York 7, San Diego 5 (10); Chicago 4, Atlanta 1; Houston 7, Florida 4; Montreal 5, San Francisco 4; Cincinnati 11, Pittsburgh 1; Los Angeles 4, Philadelphia 1 (10).

Wednesday's AL results: Toronto 5, Detroit 3; Milwaukee 8, Minnesota 1; Boston 6, Oakland 5; Cleveland 6, Chicago 3; Texas 4, Kansas City 2; Baltimore 5, California 3; Seattle 11, New York 9.

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Elisha Levy signs two-year contract with Mac Herzliya

ORI LEWIS

ELISHA Levy, coach of Hapoel Beit She'an for the last five seasons yesterday, signed a two-year contract with Maccabi Herzliya.

Levy, took his charges to the National League at the start of last season and managed to keep them there for at least another campaign.

With Levy, goes Argentinian Claudio Cahimi, one of Beit She'an's two foreign players, who has also signed a two-year contract.

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